

Winter 2026 · Volume 83, Issue 3

The Alabama

MUNICIPAL

Official publication of the Alabama League of Municipalities

Journal

**Building Vibrant
Communities Together
in 2026**

**Welcome to
the Neighborhood!**

*Get to Know Your State and National League
to Access Tools and Resources*



LEAGUE OFFICERS

Sherry Sullivan - *Mayor, Fairhope, President*
Rusty Jessup - *Mayor, Riverside, Vice President*
Greg Cochran - *Executive Director*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2025 - 2026

From the First Congressional District

Ralph Hellmich - *Mayor, Foley*
Katherine Breeden - *Councilmember, Loxley*
Brandon van Hook - *Mayor, Semmes*
Newton Cromer - *Councilmember, Saraland*
Ruthie Campbell - *Mayor, Robertsdale*

From the Second Congressional District

Marché Johnson - *Councilmember, Montgomery*
Gordon Stone - *Mayor, Pike Road*
Charles Andrews - *Mayor, Monroeville*
Jason Reeves - *Mayor, Troy*
Stanley Stallworth - *Mayor, Evergreen*

From the Third Congressional District

Joe Taylor - *Mayor, Rainbow City*
Katrina Hennings - *Councilmember, Springville*
Ron Anders - *Mayor, Auburn*
Eddie Smith - *Mayor, Opelika*
Scott Reeves - *Mayor, Hokes Bluff*

From the Fourth Congressional District

Jennifer Williams Smith - *Councilmember, Jasper*
Allen Dunavant - *Mayor, Glen Allen*
Chuck Ables - *Mayor, Geraldine*
Jill Oakley - *Councilmember, Albertville*
Willis Thompson - *Councilmember, Muscle Shoals*

From the Fifth Congressional District

Dana Henry - *Councilmember, Athens*
Charles Black - *Councilmember, Priceville*
Jim McCamy - *Mayor, Scottsboro*
Vacant
Alice Lessmann - *Councilmember, Madison*

From the Sixth Congressional District

Vacant
Ashley Curry - *Mayor, Vestavia Hills*
Stan Hogeland - *Mayor, Gardendale*
Michael Gay - *Councilmember, Millbrook*
Theoangelo Perkins - *Mayor, Harpersville*

From the Seventh Congressional District

Bobby Scott - *Mayor, Center Point*
Graham Smith - *Mayor, Mountain Brook*
Gwendolyn Rogers - *Mayor, Linden*
Wardine Alexander - *Councilmember, Birmingham*
Sheldon Day - *Mayor, Thomasville*

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

(Active Past Presidents)

Mark Saliba - *Mayor, Dothan (2024-25)*
Leigh Dollar - *Mayor, Guntersville (2020-21)*
Ronnie Marks - *Mayor, Athens (2019-20)*
Walt Maddox - *Mayor, Tuscaloosa (2013-14)*
Johnny Ford - *Councilmember, Tuskegee (1989-90)*

About ALM:

The Alabama League of Municipalities is a nonpartisan membership association of over 450 incorporated cities and towns. Since 1935, the League has worked to strengthen municipal government through advocacy, training and the advancement of effective local leadership. As the recognized voice of Alabama's cities and towns, ALM's member municipalities benefit from a variety of member programs, services and activities that are impossible to accomplish alone.



Go Digital!



Scan the QR code to see e-versions of *The Alabama Municipal Journal* available online. Between editions, keep up with ALM's daily activities via our social media channels. Photos from League events are also available for viewing and downloading on our Flickr page.



Follow us on X (formerly known as Twitter): @AL_League



Follow us on Facebook: @ALALM



Follow us on Instagram: @alabamacitiesandtowns



Follow us on LinkedIn: @alabama-league-of-municipalities



Follow us on Flickr: flickr.com/photos/alabamaleagueofmunicipalities/albums

Advertising with the League:

The Alabama Municipal Journal is published by the Alabama League of Municipalities, 535 Adams Avenue, Montgomery, Alabama 36104. Telephone (334) 262-2566. Website: www.almonline.org. Subscriptions are \$26.00 per year. Advertising rates and a circulation statement are available. Statements or expressions of opinions appearing within this publication are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Alabama League of Municipalities. Publication of any advertisement should not be considered an endorsement of the product or service involved. Material from this publication may not be reprinted without permission.

Editor: LORI JHONS Graphic Designer: KARL FRANKLIN



The Alabama MUNICIPAL Journal

Official publication of the Alabama League of Municipalities

Winter 2026 • Volume 83, Issue 3

In this Issue:

Executive Director's Report: Building Vibrant Communities Together in 2026.....	5	2025 DesignAlabama Philip A. Morris Mayors Design Summit Graduates Recognized.....	39
Leadership Perspective.....	7-8	More Than 1,300 Municipal Officials Attend ALM Regional Orientation Trainings.....	40
What is the Alabama League of Municipalities?.....	9	Local Governments are Encouraged to Monitor Official Flag Flying Directives.....	42
• Meet the ALM Team Members.....	9	Building Stronger Cities Together: An Introduction to the National League of Cities.....	44
• Join an ALM Standing Committee and Be Heard!	13	Live Locally Alabama: West Alabama Communities Invest in People, Pride and Opportunity.....	51
• Honoring the Voice of Alabama's Municipalities.....	14-18	New Board Members Elected for League Programs.....	54
Legal Viewpoint:		Alabama Communities Prepare to Celebrate America's 250 th Birthday.....	55
How to Use the League's Legal Department.....	20	Mandatory Hiring Practices for Law Enforcement Officers.....	58
ADA Compliance and Accessibility on Municipal Websites.....	24	In Memory of James "Jim" P. Nix Sr.	60
Over 50 Municipal Officials Graduate from the Certified Municipal Official Program.....	26	ALM Wishes Sonya McCarley a Happy Retirement!	62
ALM Announces 2025 Class of Alabama Communities of Excellence Designees and STAR Award Honorees.....	33	Important Upcoming ARPA Deadlines.....	66
ALM Celebrates Fourth Class of EDA Graduates.....	36		
City of Saraland Designated as Second Healthy Alabama Community in State.....	38		



On the Cover:

Welcome to the neighborhood, new members! We appreciate your willingness to serve your community and look forward to your engagement in our organization to best prepare you for the next four years. Take a leisurely stroll through this edition to get acquainted with ALM's history, staff, officers, resources and more!

Insuring the Future of Local Government



Is ***YOUR*** Future Covered?

www.amicentral.org

1-866-239-2642 (AMIC)

Building Vibrant Communities Together in 2026

Gregory D. Cochran • Executive Director

We begin 2026 riding on the momentum from the fall of 2025 when we successfully hosted four regional orientation workshops to welcome our newly elected officials to the world of municipal governance. We had more than 1,300 officials attend these workshops, which focused on topics such as finance, best practices in local governance, ethics and conflicts of interest. If you were unable to attend one of these workshops, we have 19 training sessions online through our partnership with the Alabama Community College System (ACCS). To learn more about the online trainings, please reach out to Mary Pollard, ALM’s director of professional and community development, at mpollard@almonline.org.

We are also hosting several Certified Municipal Official (CMO) regional trainings this year to cover even more municipal government issues. To review the agenda, locations and to register, visit our website at <https://www.almonline.org/UpcomingTraining.aspx>.

As we navigate 2026, please know that we are your trusted partner in building vibrant communities across Alabama, and we have several strategic partners who are experienced in economic development and community enhancement. These partnerships have allowed us to build a strong team internally and externally to provide the needed resources and tools for your use – because we all understand a strong economic ecosystem is vital to building a vibrant community. One of the many resources our team has ready to assist you with this is our Economic Development Academy (EDA). The EDA was launched in 2021 and is specifically designed to educate and engage municipal officials on the essential elements and phases of economic development while highlighting their vital role in economic initiatives and projects within their communities. We will be accepting applications for the 2027 class in the fall of 2026. To learn more, visit <https://almonline.org/EconomicDevelopmentAcademy.aspx>.



ALM hosted the last fall orientation training at the Daphne Civic Center on November 12-13, 2025. Pictured left to right: ALM Executive Director Greg Cochran, Silverhill Mayor Jared Lyles, ALM President Sherry Sullivan, Spanish Fort Councilmember Steve Winn, Spanish Fort Mayor Brad Bass, Spanish Fort Councilmember Drew Ramsey, Silverhill Councilmember Steve Brooks, Daphne Mayor Robin LeJeune and ALM Deputy Director Kayla Bass.

On another note: with all the political rhetoric going around, I want to share with you a passage I recently read during the National League of Cities' City Summit conference in Salt Lake City from Ashley Collins.

“There is so much noise out there.... So loud that we almost believe it. Yet, it is in the quiet rock of our soul, our very core, that we somehow know the noise is simply that.... noise. If we sit silent in a room and just conjure the word, magic begins to happen.

“America.

“Slowly the noise fades away, and our soul begins to smile. We realize how remarkable our lives are; our achievements, our moments of brilliance. None would be possible without the long history of what defines America: sacrifices generations made over the hundreds of years.... Lives, loves, and family aiming for something higher than where they began.”

This passage touched me at my core, for this is our purpose as municipal leaders – to build communities where people can rise to their highest potential, professionally and personally. This takes us all working together, finding the commonality of principles to create dynamic places to live, work and prosper. Our municipal leaders strive to build communities that support strong economic growth and vibrant quality of life with core values of education, health care and public safety.

In the spring of 2026, we will continue to find ways to educate our citizens, through our Live Locally Alabama campaign, on the complexity of building strong vibrant communities. It is time for us to tell the stories of the costs of replacing aging firetrucks, weathered roads, leaking water and wastewater infrastructure. It is time to share the costs of placing law enforcement with proper equipment throughout our neighborhoods and the costs of building parks and recreational venues for families to enjoy. These are decisions municipal leaders must make to balance quality of life services with the burdens of taxation on businesses and citizens.

We look forward to visiting with you during our upcoming meetings. The ALM Annual Convention will be held in Montgomery, April 28 - May 1. It is an awesome event and allows our members to hear from national speakers, staff and our ever-popular, peer-to-peer round table sessions, where so much institutional knowledge from our veteran municipal officials is vetted with perspectives from newly elected officials.

Thank you again for placing your name on the ballot and answering the call to serve! ■

Peace be with you,
Gregory D. Cochran, CAE
Executive Director



ALM hosted a panel discussion with Alabama House Speaker Nathaniel Ledbetter and Senate Majority Leader Steve Livingston at Advocacy Day on Jan. 21, 2026 in Montgomery.



ALM staff pose with Center Point Mayor Bobby Scott, Councilmember Keffera Stokes and Councilmember Jasmine Deloach.



ALM President Sherry Sullivan and ALM Executive Director Greg Cochran joined Todd Stacy, host of Alabama Public Television, for an interview on Jan. 21, 2026.

Leadership Perspective

Mayor Sherry Sullivan • Fairhope • ALM President



As newly elected municipal officials step into their roles, they will quickly discover that this is both an exciting opportunity and a significant responsibility. Serving a community requires not only dedication and vision, but also a willingness to learn, collaborate and build strong relationships. Recent training for newly elected municipal officials, hosted by the Alabama League of Municipalities, brought to light just how important relationships are not only within your own city or town, but across the entire state.

One of the most valuable resources available to you is the experience of other municipal leaders. Whether serving as mayor or councilmember, many have already navigated the challenges of local government, such as budgets, personnel issues and infrastructure needs.

You will also find that the League offers the most benefits when you get involved. The recent training sessions demonstrated that relationship building is the foundation of effective leadership, and the League can serve as a partner in building those relationships.

As mentioned during our amazing Advocacy Day, another critical relationship to build is the one with your legislative delegation. Your legislators make decisions that can directly impact things like local regulations and funding. Establishing a positive relationship with them is one of the most important things a new official can do.

Introduce yourself. Share your community's priorities. Offer to serve as a resource for local issues. Legislators value hearing directly from officials who are on the ground, and these conversations can influence decisions made in Montgomery. While the League advocates on behalf of municipalities, the most effective advocate for your community is YOU!

Stepping into public office is both rewarding and challenging, and no one is expected to do it alone. The Alabama League of Municipalities is a resource committed to making it easier for new officials through training, advocacy and resources. Your fellow elected officials are partners in service, and by getting to know them and seeking their guidance, you will strengthen not only your effectiveness but your role as a leader in your community.

It takes all of us working together to make our communities and Alabama the best it can be. ■



Leadership Perspective

Mayor Rusty Jessup • Riverside • ALM Vice President



Let us all be honest - deciding to run for public office is not for the faint of heart. It is like signing up for a roller coaster ride blindfolded, with no map, no snacks, and a whole lot of people watching. Terrifying? Yes. Confusing? Yes. Lonely? Absolutely. But guess what? You did it! You leapt. You campaigned, and you won! And now — Ta-Da — you are officially one of the brave and courageous souls steering your municipal ship!

But fear not, my fellow adventurer! You are not alone in this wild, wonderful world of governance. Enter: The Alabama League of Municipalities (cue the Rocky theme song)! They are the wise wizards of local leadership; ready to guide you, support you and gently steer you away from trouble and rookie mistakes — like accidentally budgeting a dance floor with disco ball in the mayor’s office or repaving a neighbor’s driveway. ☺

The Certified Municipal Official (CMO) training program is your golden ticket. Your superhero cape. Your, “*I actually know what I’m doing,*” badge. Getting your certification tells your constituents, “*I am not just winging it, and I’ve got the credentials to prove it*”. And, if your dreams and ambitions are about re-election or climbing the political ladder, this certification is your resume’s best friend.

But wait — there is more! Personal tip: Do not do it all online. Sure, virtual classes are available and convenient, but the real magic happens when you are face-to-face with your fellow elected officials. That is where the stories come out — the real-life lessons and the practical applications that are so very important. The, “*you will not believe what happened at our last council meeting,*” tales that make this journey so rich and rewarding.

So buckle up! Stay curious and lean into the training and camaraderie. Get Certified! You have got this, and we have your back! ■





What is the Alabama League of Municipalities?

The Alabama League of Municipalities is a nonpartisan membership association of over 450 incorporated cities and towns. Since 1935, the League has worked to strengthen municipal government through advocacy, training and the advancement of effective local leadership. As the recognized voice of Alabama's cities and towns, ALM's member municipalities benefit from a variety of member programs, services and activities that are impossible to accomplish alone. Learn more about our amazing history by scanning the QR code.



League leadership consists of officers (president and vice president), a board of directors, an executive committee and the executive director. The ALM Board of Directors is composed of five to seven elected municipal officials from each of the state's congressional districts and the ALM Executive Committee consists of the president, vice president, active past presidents still in office and the executive director (as an advisory, non-voting member). League officers and members of the board of directors are elected by the voting delegates at the annual convention. In addition, there is an ALM Committee on State and Federal Legislation composed of a chair and vice chair (elected by voting delegates at the annual convention), one member from each state senatorial district, the chair and vice chair of any standing committee established by the board of directors and not more than 12 members chosen from the state at-large. The executive director serves as an ex officio member of the committee.

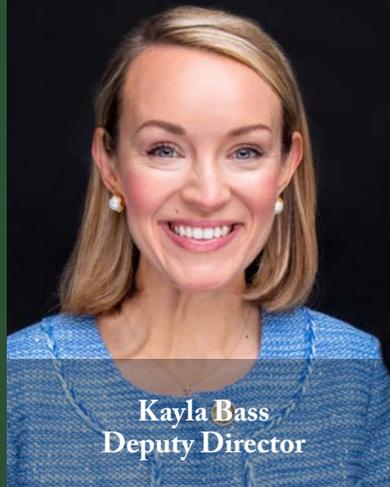
As part of the leadership structure, there are six standing committees that shape the priorities of the League. See page 13 for more information about these committees. Consider joining one to help shape the future! ■

Meet the ALM Team Members

Executive



Greg Cochran
Executive Director



Kayla Bass
Deputy Director



Debra Pascal
Executive Assistant

Meet the ALM Team Members

Legal



Rob Johnston
Director of Legal Services



Mary Elizabeth Dial
Associate Counsel



Mikal Webb
Associate Counsel

Legal



Jill Service
Legal Services
Executive Assistant

Finance



Barry Crabb
Finance Director



Richard Buttenshaw
Director of
Financial Services

Finance



Melissa Chapman
Accounting Manager



Barbara Alexander
Director of
Human Resources



Rachel Wagner
Financial Services Assistant

Finance



Dana Buster
Financial Services Clerk

Advocacy



Ken Gabehart
Facilities Manager

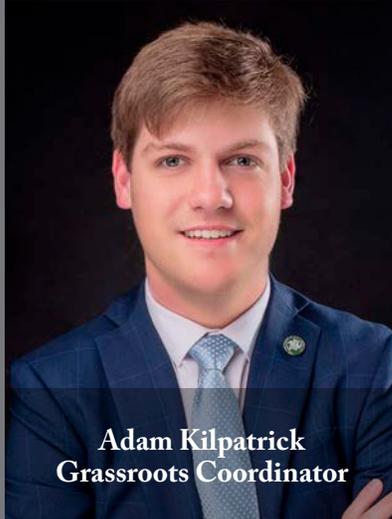


Baker Allen
Director of
Governmental Affairs

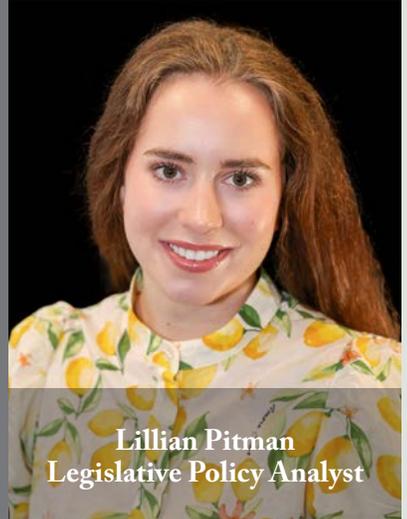
Advocacy



Kaleb Beck
Legislative Counsel

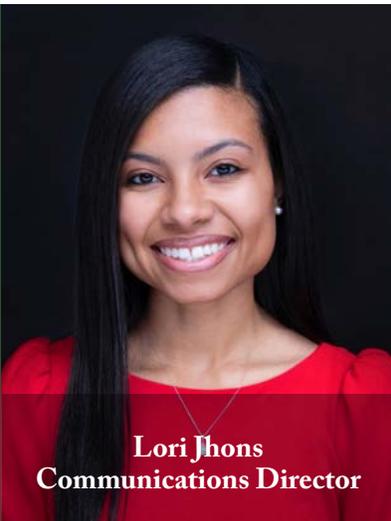


Adam Kilpatrick
Grassroots Coordinator



Lillian Pitman
Legislative Policy Analyst

Communications



Lori Jhons
Communications Director



Karl Franklin
Graphic Designer



Ty Rayford
Digital Media Specialist

Meet the ALM Team Members

Member Services



Cindy Price
Corporate Relations
Manager



Keely Smith
Conferences
and Events Manager



Mary Jackson Pollard
Director of Professional and
Community Development

Member Services



Kerri Butler
Member Services Associate



Kirstyn Blanton
Receptionist and
Membership Clerk

Technology



Chuck Stephenson
Director of Information
Technology

Technology



Rob Sellers
Information Systems
Specialist



Elizabeth Ingram
Application Support Analyst



Visit our website for more
information about the League.
www.almonline.org



Join an ALM Standing Committee and Be Heard!

The League has six standing committees comprised of mayors and councilmembers from each congressional district in the state. Each fall, the League's six standing committees convene in Montgomery to hear from state and federal resource advisors and to recommend any pertinent legislative considerations to the Committee on State and Federal Legislation ahead of the legislative session.

If you are a municipal official that would like to serve on one of the League's six standing committees, please email Lillian Pitman, ALM legislative policy analyst, at lpitman@almonline.org.

This is a great opportunity to get more involved with the League and advocate for issues important to cities and towns across the state!

Committee on State and Federal Legislation

Chair: Mayor Donna McKay, Wadley
Vice Chair: Mayor Richard Teal, Loxley

The League's six standing committees are:

- **Committee on Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR)**
Chair: Councilmember Chrystal Smitherman, Birmingham
Vice-Chair: Mayor Stanley Allred, Millport
- **Committee on Energy, Environment and Natural Resources (EENR)**
Chair: Councilmember Willis Thompson, Muscle Shoals
Vice-Chair: Councilmember Melvin Duran, Priceville
- **Committee on Transportation, Infrastructure and Communication (TIC)**
Chair: Councilmember Don Mack, Centreville
Vice-Chair: Mayor Eddie Smith, Opelika
- **Committee on Public Safety (PS)**
Chair: Councilmember Wardine Alexander, Birmingham
Vice-Chair: Councilmember Clark Hopper, Rainbow City
- **Committee on Human Development (HD)**
Chair: Vacant
Vice-Chair: Vacant
- **Committee on Community and Economic Development (CED)**
Chair: Councilmember Newton Cromer, Saraland
Vice-Chair: Vacant



For an in-depth description of each committee, please scan the QR code.



Honoring the **Voice** of Alabama's Municipalities

Since 1935, the Alabama League of Municipalities has proudly supported Alabama's cities and towns. Through decades of changes, the mission has stayed the same: strengthen municipal government through advocacy, training and the advancement of effective local leadership.



1935 Upon the recommendation of Gov. Bibb Graves, the newly formed Alabama League of Municipalities retained the services of Edgar "Ed" Ernest Reid, a charismatic, energetic young man with a background in journalism and government, as its first salaried director.

Reid secured office space in the state capitol and funding from the Rockefeller Foundation to increase membership and advocacy efforts.



John G. Burton of Jasper was elected as the League's first president.

1937 The first issue of the *Alabama Municipal News* was printed to educate and inform municipal officials. It is now recognized as *The Alabama Municipal Journal!*

1942 The Municipal Revenue Service was established to provide necessary investigations to collect unpaid and escaped delinquent insurance license taxes from insurance companies doing business in Alabama's municipalities.

1943 A law passed to authorize the attorney general to issue opinions to counties and municipalities.

1945 A constitutional amendment passed to allow all municipalities to levy up to 12 1/2 mills of ad valorem taxes.

1946 ALM leased its first office on Hull Street in Montgomery.



1952 *Evers v. City of Dadeville*, 61 So.2d 78 This case upheld the gross receipts license tax in the nature of a sales tax.

1953 A law passed to authorize county and municipal employees to participate in the State Retirement System.

1961 The first comprehensive municipal election laws were enacted.



1965 John Watkins became the second League executive director following the death of Ed Reid.

1969 The authority for "true" sales tax was enacted.

1970 The current League headquarters building was dedicated at 535 Adams Avenue. It was designed by Montgomery architecture firm Tom Kirkland and Associates.

1971 Municipal elections became nonpartisan.

1976 The Municipal Workers Compensation Fund, Inc. (MWCF) was established to provide workers compensation insurance coverage to municipalities, housing authorities, utility boards and other city agencies. It was created during a "hard market" when private carriers were not interested in insuring many of Alabama's municipalities.



1978 A constitutional amendment was adopted to authorize the establishment of eight classes of municipalities, based on population.

1981 Council President Nina Miglionico of Birmingham became the first female League president.



1986 Perry Roquemore Jr. became the League's third executive director following the retirement of John Watkins.

Legislation was enacted to authorize municipalities to receive a share of the oil and gas trust fund interest.

1989 Mayor Johnny Ford of Tuskegee became the first African-American League president.



The Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation (AMIC) was established as a mutual insurance company organized under the laws of the state of Alabama and owned by its member municipalities.

Established during a "hard" insurance market when many municipalities could not get insurance or were charged exorbitant prices, AMIC writes all lines of insurance.

1990 The Legislature authorized the State Employees Insurance Board to establish a health insurance plan for municipalities.

1992 The Alabama Association of Municipal Attorneys (AAMA) was created to serve and assist municipal attorneys and prosecutors throughout the state of Alabama by fostering communication and education of attorneys and the public as to the unique aspects of municipal law.



1994 ALM became the second league in the nation to offer a Certified Municipal Official (CMO) program, which was established as a series of continuing education programs for mayors and councilmembers who voluntarily participate in municipal government training. Officials receiving 40 hours of credit receive their CMO designation.

1995 The League expanded its headquarters building, creating a basement and additional office space.



1998 ALM launched its first website: www.alalm.org.



The League established the Advanced Certified Municipal Official designation for those elected officials who receive an additional 40 hours of training after completing their initial CMO.

1999 A constitutional amendment was approved to limit state-enacted unfunded mandates.

A constitutional amendment was approved to protect municipalities' share of oil and gas trust fund revenues.

2000 AMIC purchased the building at 110 North Ripley Street in downtown Montgomery, moving all services in-house.



2001 AMIC and MWCF developed an internal Loss Control Department to provide a variety of services, including regional and on-site training programs, proactive driver training, firearms training and loss control representatives assigned to various areas of the state.



2006 The Alabama Municipal Funding Corporation (AMFund) was established to assist Alabama municipalities with funding local projects and purchases through low-cost financing.



2007 Councilwoman Cynthia McCollum of Madison became the first Alabama official elected as president of the National League of Cities (NLC).

The Alabama Municipal Judges Association (AMJA) was created to serve and benefit municipal judges throughout the state of Alabama by fostering communication and education for municipal judges in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of Alabama's municipal courts.



2011 Ken Smith became the League's fourth executive director following the retirement of Perry Roquemore Jr.

2015 The CMO Emeritus designation was established for members who complete a minimum of 120 credit hours of training, plus 15 points.



The Municipal Intercept Services (MIS) program launched to assist municipalities with collecting unpaid debts by intercepting state tax refunds, increasing municipal revenue.



League Law, an online municipal legal research system, was created to make legal resources more accessible to Alabama's city officials.

Councilwoman Sadie Britt of Lincoln was elected as the League's first African-American female president.



2020 Greg Cochran became the League's fifth executive director following the retirement of Ken Smith.

ALM formed the strategic partnership program to support the League's mission to strengthen local leadership through events, programs and initiatives.



2021 The Economic Development Academy launched, in partnership with the Alabama Community College System, to educate and engage municipal officials on the essential elements and phases of economic development.



2022 ALM adopted the Alabama Communities of Excellence program, originally established in 2002, to provide technical assistance to select communities with populations ranging from 2,000 to 18,000 in an effort to strengthen long-term economic success.





Photo credit: Hal Yeager, Governor's Office

2024 During the 2024 Legislative Session, Sen. Jabo Waggoner and Rep. Jim Hill introduced legislation to the Alabama Legislature to expand the CMO program from a voluntary program to mandated training. Gov. Kay Ivey signed the Alabama Municipal Official Training Act into law on May 3, 2024.

ALM launched the quality-of-life campaign, Live Locally Alabama, to encourage civic engagement, instill community pride and highlight the crucial role municipal government plays in the daily lives of Alabama's citizens. The campaign aims to provide strategic resources and one-on-one consultations for municipalities to help them improve how they showcase their uniqueness and remind citizens of the quality-of-life services they provide.



CMO Emeritus Tiers II-IV were created for members who receive over 200 credit hours of training, plus 20 points.

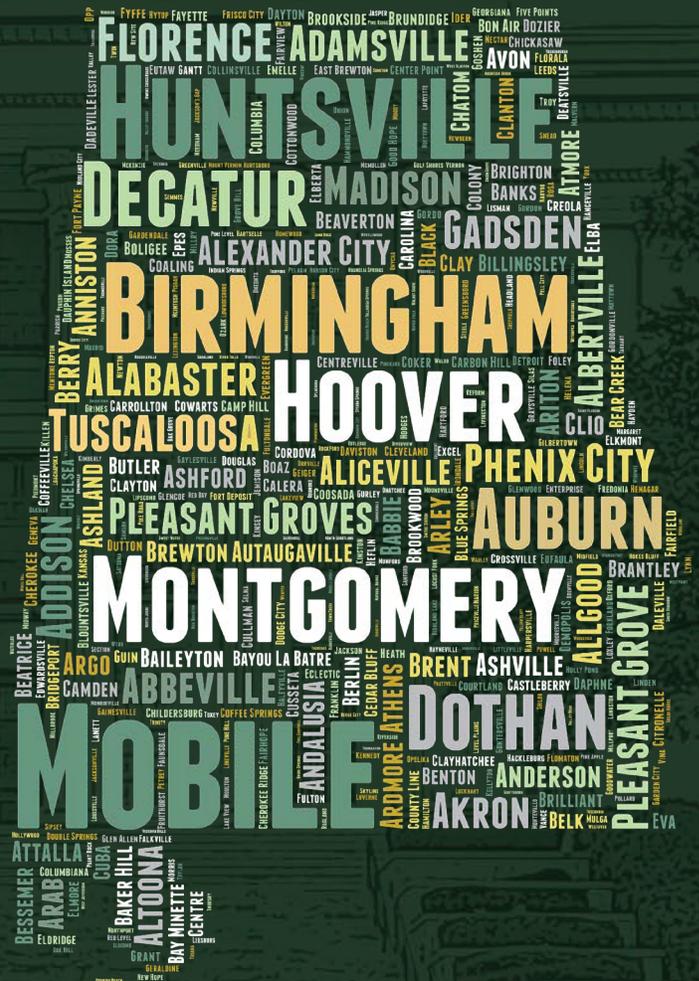
This expanded recognition of achievement celebrates the lifelong dedication to learning displayed by Alabama's municipal officials.



2025 ALM celebrated its 90th anniversary on May 15, 2025! Thank You to Our 450+ Member Municipalities for Your Contributions to Our Story!



Scan the QR code to download the WordCloud Map as an image





NAFECO®

rosenbauer

RECENT DELIVERIES



East Alabama Fire Department

- CHASSIS: Rosenbauer Commander
- BODY: Mid-Mount Aerial Platform
- ENGINE: Cummins X15
- HORSEPOWER: 600 HP
- PUMP: Waterous
- GPM: 2250 GPM
- TANK: 300 Gallons

Central Fire Department

- CHASSIS: Freightliner M2 106
- BODY: Pumper
- ENGINE: Cummins L9
- HORSEPOWER: 360 EV HP
- PUMP: Waterous
- GPM: 1500 GPM
- TANK: 1000 Gallons



Pea Ridge Fire Department

- CHASSIS: Freightliner M 106 Plus
- BODY: Pumper
- ENGINE: Cummins L9
- HORSEPOWER: 360 HP
- PUMP: Waterous
- GPM: 1500 GPM
- TANK: 1000 Gallons



**CONTACT YOUR TERRITORY MANAGER FOR
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**



NAFECO.com/FireTruck
info@nafeco.com • 800-628-6233



LEGAL VIEWPOINT

By Rob Johnston, Director of Legal Services, ALM

How To Use the League's Legal Department

Congratulations on embarking on your elected term! One important League service is responding to legal inquiries from its member municipalities. The League maintains a legal department to provide its members with direct legal assistance when needed. While the legal department has many roles, with over 450 members – representing literally thousands of elected officials, officers, employees, board members and others who may make requests – there are limits to what the department can do. This article will help readers make the most effective use of the legal department. It is intended simply as a guide. Because our goal is to serve our member municipalities, League attorneys attempt to remain flexible in the services they provide.

What Services Are Available?

The legal department's primary function is to represent the interests of member municipalities throughout Alabama; therefore, we attempt to have an attorney available by telephone every day during regular business hours. However, the legal department is not a substitute for local legal representation. The volume of requests we receive makes individual representation impossible; so, we must restrict our activities to those which we feel best serve all our member cities and towns.

In addition to providing direct legal assistance, the legal department provides other services, such as: preparation of *amicus curiae* (friend of the court) briefs in appellate cases; preparation of periodic summaries of court decisions and attorney general's opinions for the League's Law database; quarterly legal articles in *The Alabama Municipal Journal*; drafting manuals explaining the duties and responsibilities of municipal officials and employees; providing sample and model ordinances; conducting educational and training seminars; managing the Alabama Association of Municipal Attorneys (AAMA) and the Alabama Municipal Judges Association (AMJA); and assisting with the League's advocacy efforts.

Who Can Inquire?

This question raises complex ethical conflicts of interest issues concerning the responsibilities of the League's attorneys. Explaining it simply, the League represents its member municipalities and not individuals, even if they are municipal officials.

The League answers inquiries from mayors, councilmembers, board members, clerks, attorneys and other representatives of member municipalities. League attorneys do not advise officials about their private legal matters. Additionally, conflict-of-interest rules generally prohibits us



from advising members of the public regarding municipal legal matters, although we do share articles or other general information we have on hand with private citizens. Please do not encourage citizens who are not municipal officials or employees to contact the League for legal advice as we may have to refuse assistance.

Furthermore, the League's attorneys cannot take sides in disputes involving one municipality against another or in conflicts between municipal officials. League attorneys exercise discretion in these situations and will generally refer you to your local attorney where a potential conflict of interest appears likely to arise. If it appears that we are being asked to resolve a dispute between two or more officials, we may ask that the question be reduced to writing with an agreed to statement of facts between the concerned parties so that we may respond to all sides jointly. We will also make every effort to encourage cooperation on questions involving disputes between municipal officials.

How to Use the Legal Department

Whether you inquire by telephone or email, the following guidelines will help us give you the most prompt, accurate response:

- Call or write as soon as possible after identifying your problem – immediate deadlines make responses difficult since a question often requires research.
- Give us as many facts as possible. On questions involving boards, it is best to know under what section of the Alabama Code the board was created.
- If you are following up on an issue you have been discussing with one of our attorneys, please inform the legal department executive assistant so that your call may be directed to that attorney.

- If you have inquired with a particular attorney but have not received a response, please indicate that information in any follow-up inquiry so as to avoid duplicate effort on the part of the attorneys in the department. Please be patient as some responses take time and may require research discussion among all the attorneys in the legal department in order for us to develop a consensus answer and avoid conflicting and/or confusing responses.
- If you are under a deadline, let us know when it is, and we will try our best to meet it.
- Municipal officials and employees are welcome to discuss matters in person at League headquarters in Montgomery. *Please call-in advance to make an appointment.* If your questions involve a review of documents, we may ask that they be forwarded prior to the meeting so that we may review them.

Telephone Inquiries

As noted above, the legal department's primary goal is to have an attorney available by telephone every day during business hours. Of course, there are exceptions, such as during the League's convention or when we are trying to meet a deadline, or on hectic meeting days of the Alabama Legislature. We make every effort to return calls either the same or the following day, and we try to give an answer over the telephone. Not every question has a clear legal answer. In these cases, we will try to give you our best legal opinion, based on years of municipal legal experience and knowledge of state and federal laws.

Additionally, some questions require research before a knowledgeable answer can be given; therefore, it is best not to put off calling until just before a deadline. Of course, not



every question can be anticipated, and when a quick legal response is needed, we will make every effort to provide a speedy answer.

Email

Because of the nature of email requests, they may be treated as either a written request or a telephone inquiry. League attorneys attempt to respond to electronic questions as quickly as possible, but please bear in mind that when our attorneys are out of the office, they may not have access to a computer, which will delay any reply. If you have an email question that must be answered quickly but have not received a response, it is generally advisable to follow up with a telephone call to be sure that the message was received and that the attorney you are attempting to reach is in the office. Please inquire as to the status of the attorney you are requesting information from before simply sending your request to another attorney in the office. This will help us avoid duplicate effort on inquiries.

Amicus Curiae Briefs

While the League does not file lawsuits on behalf of its members, we do sometimes file *amicus curiae* briefs in cases on appeal to either the Courts of Appeal or to the Alabama Supreme Court if the issues involved in the case have statewide significance. If you are involved in a case on appeal and you think the court should have input from the League, please review our Amicus policy on our website under the legal services tab. If your case meets that criteria, please send a detailed written request, with supporting documentation, to the legal department.

Sample Ordinances

We maintain a large supply of sample ordinances on many topics. These samples come from several sources. Our most important source for ordinances is our members. If you adopt a new ordinance, it would benefit all League members if you would forward a copy to the League's legal department for our files.

Please remember that these ordinances have not been drafted by the legal department. Before using one as a guide, it is important to adapt these ordinances to your local needs and to obtain advice from your local attorney regarding compliance with statutes and case law.

We are often called upon to review ordinances or to interpret a word or phrase in an ordinance. While we can offer a cursory reading of an ordinance, we cannot be familiar with the circumstances which require the adoption of an ordinance, nor can we investigate facts which might influence

the meaning of specific words or the inclusion of specific sections. Our interpretation is not intended to be definitive and should be used merely as a second opinion for your local municipal attorney. Your municipal attorney is in the best position to provide you with a detailed analysis of your ordinance and provide you with a final answer.

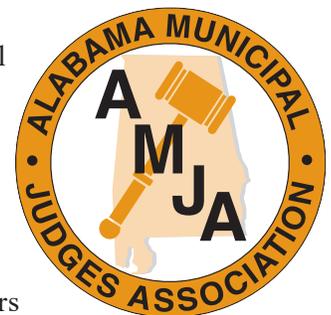
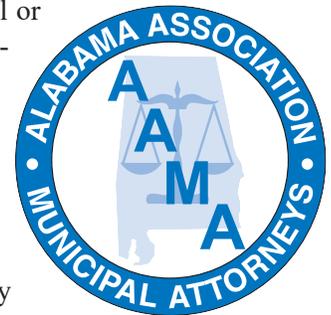
Coordination with Local Attorneys

Each municipality should have its own attorney. The League's legal department is a resource to assist your municipal needs; it is not a replacement for your municipal attorney. Nothing we do or say is meant to interfere with the critical relationship between your municipality and your attorney. When the law is unclear or the inquiry presents substantial risk of litigation, we will often suggest that you seek advice from your attorney, because he or she will have to represent you should you have to go to court. When your attorney provides advice, he or she does so in the belief that the recommended action puts the municipality in the most defensible legal position. Your municipal attorney is also in the best position to know local factors which influence the need to proceed in a particular manner.

Therefore, we generally encourage municipal officials and employees to follow their attorney's advice, especially on questions where the law is open to interpretation or factual matters require further development. Of course, we are always happy to discuss an issue with local attorneys or to verify their interpretation of a statute or case.

You should not seek our advice in the hopes that we will second-guess your attorney. We are here to assist and not compete with your attorney. If you have already discussed the matter with your attorney, please advise us of this when you call or write. Legal opinions are fact-specific and people who are not lawyers are often unaware of how a fact which seems unimportant to them might affect the legal response. Thus, if our opinion differs from that of local counsel, we will generally advise you to follow the advice of your local attorney.

To further help municipal attorneys represent their clients, the League created the Alabama Association of Municipal Attorneys (AAMA) in 1992. AAMA provides educational services to municipal attorneys. It conducts training seminars



annually for municipal attorneys. In addition to AAMA, the League created the Alabama Municipal Judges Association (AMJA) in 2007 to provide similar services for municipal judges. We strongly encourage all municipal attorneys, prosecutors and judges to join AAMA or AMJA and hope that all municipal officials will request that their local attorneys and judges join and participate in these important organizations. For more information, contact the League's legal department, or visit the League's website, where links to information about AAMA and AMJA are posted.



Alabama Association of Municipal Attorneys



Alabama Municipal Judges Association

Local Political Disputes

As attorneys, we answer your questions regarding municipal law. We often receive calls for “legal assistance” where the caller is seeking resolution to a political disagreement. Every municipality has political disagreements; most cannot be resolved by looking at a statute. In many cases, statutes are subject to multiple interpretations, especially where the responsibilities and duties of municipal officials are concerned. These calls are awkward, and we cannot give you an answer about who is right and who is wrong. These disputes are best resolved in the political arena through compromise and cooperation rather than through legal guidance.

Coordination with Other Agencies

The League often serves as a contact point on municipal issues for other agencies, including state departments, like the attorney general's office, as well as other entities, such as regional planning commissions. League attorneys often provide advice to representatives of these offices and frequently serve as speakers at educational conferences and seminars run by these agencies. Because of our relationships with these agencies, we may refer you to one of them if we feel they can assist you with your questions.

Relationship with League Affiliated Programs including the Municipal Workers Compensation Fund and the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation

The League administers two risk-pooling type programs for municipalities – Municipal Workers Compensation Fund, Inc. (MWCF) and the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation (AMIC), which provides liability coverage for

municipalities. It is important to understand that the League's legal department does not represent these entities. We do not provide advice regarding coverage or on matters in which one of these entities has an interest. Further, following our legal advice does not guarantee coverage. Questions regarding specific coverage issues or other matters related to these entities should be directed to them and not to the League's legal department.

Limitations

- Excluded from our advisory services are matters such as:
- drafting individualized ordinances and contracts
 - comprehensive review of ordinances, contracts, applications for grants or legal responses
 - on-site training for individual municipalities (although League attorneys will meet with representatives of a municipality at League headquarters if an appointment is made)
 - litigation
 - direct representation or negotiations with third parties on an individual municipality's behalf

Further, it is important to remember the following:

- We cannot take sides with one municipality or one official against another.
- We generally cannot respond to questions regarding the League's workers compensation or liability programs. Inquiries on these programs should be directed to the appropriate representative.

Have a Question? Do Not Hesitate to Call

This user's guide is not meant to discourage you from contacting the League's legal department. On the contrary, we hope that understanding the scope of our services will help you make better use of them. When in doubt about whether we can help you, please do not hesitate to call. Of course, if ethics prohibit us from responding to your question, we may have to refuse to answer it or may refer you to someone who does not have a conflict. We hope you will take advantage of League services and programs. Please do not hesitate to contact the League's legal department at (334) 262-2566 or via our website at www.almonline.org. ■



Scan the QR code to learn more about the League's legal department

ADA Compliance and Accessibility on Municipal Websites



In 28 C.F.R. Part 35, Subpart H, federal law requires all public entities, including municipalities, must ensure that any web content and mobile apps that they publish are “readily accessible to and usable by individuals with disabilities.” 28 C.F.R. § 35.200(a). (<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/04/24/2024-07758/nondiscrimination-on-the-basis-of-disability-accessibility-of-web-information-and-services-of-state>)



Requirements

The new rule requires that state and local governments follow the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) Version 2.1 up to Level AA. The Justice Department selected Level AA as appropriate for state and local governments because it “contains other criteria that provide more comprehensive web accessibility, and yet (is) still achievable for most web developers.”

Some examples of Level AA accessibility requirements include providing captions for audio and video media, alternative descriptive text for images, and resizable text. You can review the Web Accessibility Initiative’s quick reference on How to Meet WCAG here: https://www.w3.org/WAI/WCAG22/quickref/?currentsidebar=%23col_customize&versions=2.1



These requirements will also apply to social media profiles that belong to municipalities. In many cases, local governments will be able to take advantage of features already available on social media platforms in order to comply with many of the requirements.

Deadlines for Municipalities to Comply

- Municipalities with populations of less than 50,000 people must comply with these new requirements by **April 26, 2027**.
- Municipalities with populations of 50,000 people or more must comply with these new requirements by **April 24, 2026**.

Exceptions

Web pages are not required to comply with WCAG Level AA Guidelines if they are:

- Archived web content which:
 - Was created before the municipality’s compliance deadline,
 - Is retained for reference, research, or recordkeeping only,
 - Is not altered or updated after the date it was archived, and
 - Is clearly identified as archival.
- Documents that are available before the municipality’s compliance deadline.
 - However, if citizens use a document to apply for, gain access to, or participate in the municipality’s services, programs, or activities, then it must comply with the ADA requirements.
- Content posted by a third party to a municipality’s website. However, if the third party posts the content on behalf of the municipality, or as part of an agreement with the municipality, then it must comply with the ADA requirements.
- Conventional electronic documents that are:
 - About a specific individual, their property, or their account; and
 - Password-protected or otherwise secured.
- A municipality’s social media posts which were already posted before the municipality’s compliance deadline.

For more information on complying with the new ADA web accessibility requirements, consult with your municipal attorney. If your municipality is in need of a web developer, consider contacting VC3, the Alabama League of Municipalities IT consulting partner since 2018.

NORTH ALABAMA

Where the Lakes meet the Mountains



ALABAMA MOUNTAIN LAKES TOURIST ASSOCIATION

WWW.NORTHALABAMA.ORG

(800) 648-5381



Call or scan for your free Travel Guide!



@VisitNorthAL

Over 50 Municipal Officials Graduate from the Certified Municipal Official Program



Lori Johns | Communications Director | ALM

The Alabama League of Municipalities hosted its annual graduation and awards ceremonies on October 30, 2025, at the Montgomery Renaissance Hotel. Over 50 municipal officials graduated and received awards for participating in the Certified Municipal Official (CMO) program.

In accordance with the Alabama Municipal Official Training Act, which took effect on January 1, 2025, all mayors and councilmembers are required to complete 40 hours of training by the end of their current term in 2029. All certified elected officials, who have graduated from the Basic CMO program, are required to earn five hours of training credits annually, or 20 by the end of their current term.

“A major component of the League’s mission for the past 90 years is to train and prepare our new and veteran, municipal officials with the skills and resources needed to help them best serve their communities,” ALM Executive Director Greg Cochran said. “We are excited that this year we have partnered with the Alabama Community College System to provide enhanced online courses through their training platform, which some of the graduates have been

able to utilize when they could not attend our events.”

Throughout 2025, officials received formal classroom training, in-person and through online courses, in foundational government operations and best practices to abide by state laws. Municipal officials have the incentive of obtaining three different levels of CMO certification after completing 40, 80 and 120 credit hours of training as well as graduating. This year’s event featured six certified municipal officials, 27 advanced certified municipal officials and nine CMO emeriti, along with five CMO emeriti Tier II honorees that have completed more than 200 credit hours of training.

ALM also presented Certified Municipal Achievement (CMA) Awards to 15 municipalities. The CMA Awards were created in 2018 to honor municipalities where the municipality’s mayor and full council are all certified by completing at least 40 credit hours individually, if not more, within a year.

“We are pleased to partner with the Alabama League of Municipalities to modernize their online training to better assist municipal officials with staying up-to-date on the best practices and resources for their roles as public servants,” ACCS Chancellor Jimmy Baker said. “The ACCS and ALM



Dr. Cathy Randall delivers the commencement address to graduates on Oct. 30, 2025 in Montgomery.



teams have worked tirelessly the past year to roll out this updated training, and we look forward to continuing to build on this initiative together through our Innovation Center.”

The ACCS Innovation Center’s Skills for Success program is a division of the Alabama Community College System that brings together the state’s community colleges, business and industry, and community partners to deliver rapid, industry-recognized non-credit training within some of the state’s most in-demand career fields.

So far, more than 5,200 municipal officials have participated in the League’s training in municipal government since its inception 31 years ago. ■

2025 Certified Municipal Officials

- Councilmember Timothy Aja, Opelika
- Councilmember Kenneth L. Doss, Hartselle
- Councilmember Dana Henry, Athens
- Councilmember Judy Hurst, Carbon Hill
- Mayor Jeff Monroe, Five Points
- Mayor James Sullivan, Cleveland

2025 Advanced CMOs

- Councilmember Tommy R. Blackmon, Grimes
- Councilmember Mary W. Brabner, Spanish Fort
- Councilmember Cindy Cuellar, Irondale

- Councilmember Kenneth L. Doss, Hartselle
- Councilmember Gregory Eldridge, Level Plains
- Councilmember Eugene Faulk, Union Springs
- Councilmember Shelia Franklin, Florala
- Mayor Chris Hare, Glencoe
- Councilmember Danny Hollis, Sulligent
- Councilmember Mark Howell, Creola
- Councilmember Tommy Ivey, Childersburg
- Councilmember Marcus Jackson, Prattville
- Mayor Curtis Johnson, Colony
- Councilmember Ellis Key, Moody
- Councilmember Donna Porter Manasco, Jemison
- Councilmember Wendy Merriweather, Midfield
- Councilmember Louis Jerome Murry, Union Springs
- Councilmember Joe Nix, Andalusia
- Councilmember Harold Parmer, Creola
- Councilmember Jonathan Ray, Margaret
- Councilmember Kathy P. Smyth, Luverne
- Mayor Sherry Sullivan, Fairhope
- Councilmember Christie Thomas, Selma
- Councilmember Matthew Tortorice, Margaret
- Councilmember Kay S. Turner, Calera
- Councilmember Randy Vice, Rainbow City
- Councilmember Anthony Wright, Hueytown



ALM Executive Director Greg Cochran recognizes the ACCS team in front of members and staff.



Prattville Councilmember Marcus Jackson receives his Advanced CMO certification from ALM Executive Director Greg Cochran.

2025 CMO Emeriti

- Mayor Henry Barnes Sr., Bayou La Batre
- Councilmember Dollie M. Blue, Midway
- Councilmember Annette F. Gaither, Ashland
- Councilmember Mike Henderson, Oxford
- Councilmember Velma Johnson, Midfield
- Councilmember Jannie Thomas, Selma
- Councilmember Sylvia Wallace-Patton, Florala
- Councilmember Bill Whisenhunt, Adamsville
- Mayor Bobbie D. White, Brent

2025 CMO Emeriti – Tier II

- Mayor Carole Barfield, Ashford
- Mayor Larry J. Fetner, Ashland
- Mayor Randy Garrison, Hartselle
- Councilmember Dink Myers, Guntersville
- Councilmember Bobby L. Tapley, Alexander City

2025 CMA Awards

- Boligee
- Brewton
- Center Point
- Foley
- Glencoe
- Hokes Bluff
- Midfield
- Opp
- Priceville
- Rainbow City
- Robertsdale
- Saraland
- Shorter
- Southside
- York



CMO Graduation Ceremony | October 30, 2025

Renaissance Hotel & Spa, Montgomery





Congratulations, Graduates!







SAVE



DATE!

2026 CMO Training Calendar



THE



Make plans to join the League for training in 2026!

Visit www.almonline.org/UpcomingTraining frequently for training and updated registration information.

- NLC Congressional City Conference – March 14-18 | Washington, D.C.
- ALM Convention and Expo – April 28 - May 1 | Montgomery
- CMO Regional Trainings –
 - February 26 – Montgomery (Trenholm State CC - Patterson Campus)
 - March 12 – Sumiton (Bevill State CC - Sumiton Campus)
 - May 21 – Muscle Shoals (Northwest Shoals CC - Shoals Campus)
 - June 25 – Birmingham (Jeff State CC - Shelby-Hoover Campus)
 - July 16 – Fairhope (Coastal Alabama CC - Fairhope Campus)
- In-State Congressional Luncheons – August (full details TBD)
- Standing Committees Meeting – Fall (full details TBD) | Montgomery
- Municipal Leadership Institute and ALM Graduation Ceremonies – October 20-22 | Mobile
- NLC City Summit – November 18-21 | Nashville, TN

Learn more about the CMO Program and how it strengthens municipalities by educating municipal leaders.

almonline.org/CMOProgram



ALM Announces 2025 Class of Alabama Communities of Excellence Designees and STAR Award Honorees

Lori Johns • Communications Director • ALM

The Alabama League of Municipalities recently announced the 2025 Alabama Communities of Excellence designees and STAR Award honorees at its annual graduation and awards ceremonies on October 30, 2025 in Montgomery.

ACE was established in 2002 as a 501(c)(3) organization to provide technical assistance to select communities with populations ranging from 2,000 to 18,000 in an effort to strengthen long-term economic success.

We are proud two new cities, Chelsea and Luverne, have successfully completed all three phases of the ACE program. They join the illustrious group of communities that have earned the ACE designation, which brings our total to 47 designated communities, with four working toward the prestigious designation of becoming a community of excellence.

The League also recently presented the 2025 ACE STAR Awards. These awards recognize individuals considered as the “shining stars” of the ACE program who have performed beyond the call of duty. This includes advisory board members, ACE ambassadors, community participants and volunteers for their work assisting the organization and the communities they serve.

Newest ACE Communities ★ Chelsea and Luverne



2025 Outstanding ACE Mayor

Former Florala Mayor Gayle Cooper Robbins has been a passionate champion of the ACE program, using its tools and recommendations to drive progress in her community. Since helping initiate the ACE application process in 2016, she has worked tirelessly to strengthen Florala's economy, boost tourism and enhance residents' quality of life. Drawing on her background in education, Mayor Robbins developed LEAD Florala, a leadership program that has graduated five classes since 2021, preparing citizens for leadership roles in their daily lives and within the community.

Under her leadership, Florala achieved a major milestone by completing its first-ever comprehensive plan. Mayor Robbins also led efforts to revitalize the Florala Historical Society and secure funding for a new museum and welcome center. Beyond Florala, she served on the Alabama League of Municipalities' Community and Economic Development Standing Committee and chaired the Standing Committee on Human Development. Mayor Robbins exemplifies visionary leadership and commitment, proving that even small communities can thrive through the ACE program. ★



2025 Outstanding ACE Local Coordinator

Floyd Rodgers was appointed Fayette ACE local coordinator in spring 2021, coinciding with the completion of the city's strategic plan. Since then, he has played a key role in mobilizing committees, leading regular meetings, and keeping citizens engaged in shaping Fayette's future. Under his leadership, the city has launched its first public transportation system, serving around 200 residents; established the Fayette Junior City Council, to amplify youth voices; and revived the Fayette County Leadership Program to connect citizens with civic life. ★



Floyd also serves on the steering committee for Fayette's new comprehensive plan, which continues to drive progress and strengthen community engagement across the city and county.

2025 Outstanding ACE Volunteer

Charles Veneziano, a longtime Ozark resident and project manager for Hughes Construction Company, exemplifies his dedication to the community through both his professional work and extensive volunteer service aligned with Ozark’s ACE initiatives. With over 50 years in the construction industry, he was appointed to the Ozark Historic Preservation Commission in 2022 for his expertise in historical architecture and now serves as its chairman, leading preservation efforts. He also contributes to the city’s progress as a member of the planning and zoning board and as a leader of the housing task force, both supporting goals from Ozark’s ACE-funded strategic plan. Known for his grace, enthusiasm and ever-present smile, Charles inspires others with his commitment to improving the community he has called home for over 34 years.



Congratulations to our newest ACE communities and award recipients!

★ **The League appreciates the following entities for supporting the ACE Advisory Board in 2025:**

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs
Alabama Department of Commerce
Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourist Association | Alabama Power Company
Alabama Small Business Development Center Network
Auburn University – Government and Economic Development Institute
Goodwyn Mills Cawood

Follow our ACE social media pages – Facebook: @ACETOWNS LinkedIn: @alabama-excellence

ALM Celebrates Fourth Class of

The League, in partnership with the Alabama Community College System, celebrated four communities for graduating from its fourth class of the Economic Development Academy on October 30, 2025. The graduates include the following municipalities: Fort Payne, Glencoe, Tuscumbia and Wilton along with Aliceville Mayor Terrance Windham, who attended a majority of the EDA sessions throughout the year.

While only municipal officials and municipal employees are eligible to receive four credit hours in the Certified Municipal Official program, business leaders and regional economic developers are also encouraged to participate in the program. All graduates receive a certificate from ACCS and are eligible to earn three hours of college credit from their area community college. We are proud 49 communities have graduated from the program!

Following the 2025 municipal election cycle, ALM is going to use 2026 to follow up with communities that have participated in our EDA program, as well as reintroducing the program to reelected and newly elected members. We want to ensure that new municipal leaders understand the significance of the program and the resources we have to share. We will be introducing a new software platform to our EDA participants that will provide GIS mapping tools to help them identify and recruit local, state and national retailers to their communities.

We appreciate the following sponsors for partnering with us to provide participants with this opportunity: Hand Arendall, Insytful, Manufacture Alabama and United Bank Community Development LLC. ■



Fort Payne:

- Mayor Brian Baine
- Councilmember Lynn Brewer
- Council President Walter Watson
- Executive Director Jessica Townsel
- EDA Director Brett Johnson

Glencoe:

- Mayor Chris Hare
- Councilmember Steven Warren
- Councilmember Cody Rampey
- Councilmember Danny Wagnon
- Councilmember Michael Sizemore
- Councilmember Colt Turner
- Councilmember Jeff Little

Tuscumbia:

- Mayor William Foster
- Councilmember Jennifer Bennetch
- Councilmember Christopher King
- Councilmember Katie Logan
- City Attorney Kyle DeFoor
- Mary Marshall VanSant, Director of UNA's Center for Learning and Professional Development

Wilton:

- Mayor Deborah Hudson
- Councilmember Glenn Dabbs
- Councilmember JoAnn Hamm
- Councilmember Carl Montgomery
- Councilmember Steve VanGieson
- Brandy Hamm, Community Member

EDA Graduates



Fort Payne



Glencoe



Tuscumbia



Wilton

City of Saraland Designated as Second Healthy Alabama Community in State

Lori Jhons • Communications Director • ALM



The city of Saraland was awarded the 2025 Healthy Alabama Community designation at the Alabama League of Municipalities' annual Graduation and Awards Ceremonies at the Renaissance Hotel on October 30. This marks only the second time the award has been given in state history. The Healthy Alabama Communities program was developed in 2022 in partnership with Alabama Communities of Excellence, the Alabama Department of Public Health, the Alabama Hospital Association and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama to support communities and community

leaders in identifying and implementing policy, system and environmental changes to improve the health of all community members.

The Healthy Alabama Community designation requires cities to complete at least five evidence-based recommendations in two or more priority areas identified in the Alabama Physical Activity and Nutrition Plan (ALPAN). Saraland exceeded these requirements through initiatives focused on physical activity, nutrition access and breastfeeding support.

"Earning the Healthy Alabama Community designation shows what is possible when our cities, schools, churches and community partners unite for the well-being of Alabama's residents," ALM Executive Director Greg Cochran said. "Saraland has proven it is committed to building a community where health and happiness thrive for everyone."

Saraland enhanced its community fitness opportunities through partnerships with the YMCA and its new



Mary Pollard, ALM director of professional and community development, former Saraland Councilmember Veronica Hudson and ALM Executive Director Greg Cochran pose for a photo with the Healthy Alabama Community Award on Oct. 30, 2025 in Montgomery.

78,000-square-foot The Land Sportsplex to offer free or low-cost group fitness classes, including walking groups, senior aerobics and family-friendly boot camps. The city also improved accessibility and safety of walking and biking trails, conducting walkability assessments near schools and parks, upgrading signage and lighting and integrating these improvements into the 2025-2026 budget.

"This designation is more than an award – it is a reflection of the heart of Saraland," Howard Rubenstein, immediate past mayor of Saraland, said. "Over the past 15 years, I have seen our city grow stronger not just in size, but in the way we care for one another. From our schools and neighborhoods to our parks and programs, this recognition shows what can happen when people come together for the common good. It has been the privilege of my life to serve as mayor, and I know Saraland will continue to thrive in the years ahead."

Saraland partnered with local grocers, farmers, churches and community organizations to expand opportunities to fresh food and nutritious options. Additionally, local schools are promoting nutrition through Smart Snack guidelines and hydroponic gardening initiatives that teach children about healthy food choices and sustainability. Furthermore, as part of its public health initiatives, Saraland introduced nurturing rooms for breastfeeding mothers at the new city complex and The Land Sportsplex, ensuring privacy and comfort for nursing families during public events and recreation activities.

Veronica Hudson, who spearheaded the HAC initiative for Saraland during her tenure on the city council, said, "This recognition reflects the hard work of so many community partners and volunteers who have helped expand access to healthy food, create opportunities for active living and build programs that support the well-being of our neighbors."

To learn more about the Healthy Alabama Communities program, visit healthyalabamacomunities.org. ■



2025 DesignAlabama Philip A. Morris Mayors Design Summit Graduates Recognized

On October 30, 2025, the League recognized five mayors who recently graduated from DesignAlabama’s Philip A. Morris Mayors Design Summit. The graduates include Pine Level Mayor Zachary Bigley, Parrish Mayor Jared “Bubba” Cagle, Hartselle Mayor Randy Garrison, Cordova Mayor Jeremy Pate and Harpersville Mayor Theoangelo Perkins

DesignAlabama programs create engagement between civic leaders, citizens and design professionals. Since 1987, the Philip A. Morris Mayors Design Summit, named in honor of the late director emeritus of DesignAlabama, has brought together mayors and Alabama-based design professionals to thoughtfully examine the planning and design issues facing their communities in an intimate and collaborative setting.

During the League’s annual graduation, ALM Executive Director Greg Cochran and Deputy Director Kayla Bass presented a \$7,500 check to DesignAlabama’s Executive Director Gina Clifford to support their mission and help more municipalities benefit from their programs.

ALM members are encouraged to learn more about their programs by scanning the QR code. ■



Top: Pictured left to right: DesignAlabama’s Executive Director Gina Clifford, Parrish Mayor Jared “Bubba” Cagle, Harpersville Mayor Theoangelo Perkins, Pine Level Mayor Zachary Bigley and ALM Executive Director Greg Cochran.



Bottom: ALM Executive Director Greg Cochran presented a check to DesignAlabama’s Executive Director Gina Clifford on October 30, 2025, to support their mission.





More Than 1,300 Municipal Officials Attend ALM Regional Orientation Trainings

Lori Johns • Communications Director • ALM

During October and November, the Alabama League of Municipalities was proud to host more than 1,300 new and veteran municipal officials at our four regional orientation trainings! ALM holds these trainings every four years, following the majority of municipal elections, to provide an overview of the organization's mission, services and programs as well as legal, finance and ethics training from League staff and the Alabama Ethics Commission. These orientations allow the ALM team to share new laws and regulations, current municipal issues, contacts and resources for solving day-to-day problems.

As I am sure you could tell, we put a lot of thought into planning each of these events and preparing the presentations and materials we handed out. Our team truly enjoyed spending the fall with you around the state, and we look forward to continuing to strengthen our connections with your communities. Be sure to utilize the new orientation booklet, *The Local Officials' Guide to Municipal Government*; it is your guide to all things ALM. The checklist is on page 20, and page 51 has an important notice about receiving our emails. Scan the QR code to view the guide.



We sincerely thank the following entities for sponsoring our orientations: the Alabama Community College System, the Alabama Department of Revenue, the Alabama Recreation and Parks Association, C Spire, Clear Winds Technologies, Critical Insights Consulting, Direct PT/DX, Flawless Delivery, NAFECO, Polimorphic, Raymond James and SS&L Architects.





Local Governments are Encouraged to Monitor Official Flag Flying Directives

Lori Jhons ★ Communications Director ★ ALM

All Americans should take flag etiquette seriously when flying their U.S. flags both to demonstrate respect for our nation and to ensure compliance with federal law. This duty especially holds true for local governments.

Citizens not only look to their local governments to maintain public safety and for the delivery of other essential services, but they also expect their local officials to honor our country through proper public display of the flag. This responsibility is more than simply ensuring that flags are regularly flown and kept in good condition. It also requires monitoring presidential and gubernatorial offices notifications for special flag-lowering orders.

Following the recent municipal elections, we felt it was a good time to remind everyone of the flag protocol.

According to U.S. Code, the lowering of flags to half-staff (approximately halfway down the length of the flagpole) should *only* be done in response to presidential proclamation or by order from the governor. In Alabama, the governor has authority over all flags at state operated facilities and may order U.S. and state flags be flown at half-staff in accordance with federal and state law. The governor's flag-lowering orders are also shared with local government offices in the state as recommended guidance for flag display in cities and communities.

For example, during 2025, there were flag-lowering orders statewide in response to the deaths of former President Jimmy Carter and former Vice President Richard Cheney. Other annual statewide flag-lowering orders were released in commemoration of Memorial Day, National Peace Officers Memorial Day and National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Day, to name a few.

The governor also may issue statewide flag-lowering orders in response to the deaths of sitting or former state officials, active-duty military, law enforcement and firefighters who lose their lives in the line of duty.

Lastly, upon the death of a sitting or former county or municipal official, the governor may delegate authority to local officials, such as a mayor, to lower flags within their jurisdiction on the day of interment (funeral services). Flags should remain lowered for the duration of the day of interment until sunset. It is important to note, local governments *must* first obtain permission from the governor before lowering flags in their communities to honor a local official who has passed.

All Alabama local governments are encouraged to sign up for official flag-lowering notifications from the governor's office. To subscribe to flag-lowering notifications or to seek approval to lower flags locally, please contact the governor's press office at press.office@governor.alabama.gov. ★



Scan the QR codes to view the governor's office full flag policy and previous statewide flag memos.

Flag Policy



Flag Memos



We are proud to support Alabama's Firefighters through the state's first supplemental cancer benefits policy



Claims:

- 🔥 **Dedicated 800 Claims Number**
- 🔥 **Dedicated Support Staff**
- 🔥 **Simplified Claim Filing**
- 🔥 **Endorsed by the Alabama League of Municipalities**



Insurance Coverage Options:

- 🔥 **Up to \$50,000 in Cancer Benefits**
- 🔥 **Up to \$3,000 in Monthly Disability Benefits**
- 🔥 **Guaranteed Coverage**
- 🔥 **Career Firefighters**
- 🔥 **Volunteer Firefighters**
- 🔥 **Certified and Non-Certified**
- 🔥 **Simple Quoting Process**
- 🔥 **Base & Enhanced Plans Available**



www.alfrbp.com

1-800-23-CANCER cancerinsurance@alfrbp.com

Building Stronger Cities Together: An Introduction to the National League of Cities

Katya Mayer • Senior Regional Specialist (Southern Region) • NLC

As Alabama's newly elected mayors, councilmembers and municipal staff assumed office in November, I wanted to extend a warm welcome and introduce you to the National League of Cities (NLC). As the south regional representative for NLC, I have the privilege of working with local leaders across the South – from small towns to large urban cities – helping them access the resources, networks and advocacy that form the backbone of NLC. Whether stepping into office for the first time or returning to continue your service, I encourage municipal officials and staff to see NLC as a partner in your leadership journey.



Who We Are

The National League of Cities is the oldest and largest organization representing cities, towns and villages across the United States. For over 100 years, NLC has served as the unified voice of local government in Washington, D.C., advocating for federal policies that strengthen communities and empower local leaders to deliver solutions in your hometown.

Our mission is simple yet powerful: to relentlessly advocate for and protect the interests of cities, towns and villages by influencing federal policy, strengthening local leadership and driving innovative solutions. We do this through four core pillars:

- **Advocacy:** Representing local governments before Congress and federal agencies.
- **Education:** Offering leadership training, research and professional development.
- **Networking:** Creating spaces for local officials to share ideas and best practices.
- **Innovation:** Helping communities find creative solutions to local challenges.

NLC is more than a membership organization; it is a movement of local leaders committed to building stronger communities. Across thousands of member municipalities, our network is driven by a core value: the future of our nation depends on the strength, vision and collaboration of its cities, towns and villages.



NLC selected a new president and 2026 leadership at the annual City Summit in November 2025. Pictured left to right: Mayor David Sander of Rancho Cordova, CA, NLC past president; Vice Mayor Doreen Garlid of Tempe, AZ, NLC second vice president; Mayor Van Johnson II of Savannah, GA, NLC first vice president; Councilman Kevin Kramer of Louisville, KY, NLC president; Mayor Steve Patterson of Athens, OH, NLC immediate past president; Clarence Anthony, NLC CEO and executive director



The NLC Roadshow stopped in Mobile, AL as part of celebrating 100 years of NLC.

A Century of Local Leadership

This past year, NLC celebrated its 100th anniversary, marking a century of local leaders coming together to shape the future of our nation.

What began in 1924 as a small gathering of 10 state municipal leagues at the University of Kansas has grown into a powerful national movement representing thousands of cities, towns and villages. Over the decades, NLC has been at the forefront of key moments in our nation’s history, from rebuilding after the Great Depression and supporting the passage of the Housing Act of 1949, to advocating for federal investments in infrastructure, broadband access and housing today.

To commemorate our centennial, NLC launched the “100 Years, 100 Cities” Roadshow, visiting communities across the country to celebrate local innovation and hear directly from the leaders shaping America’s next century. Through this effort, one message rang loud and clear: strong cities build a strong nation.

What NLC Offers Our Members

NLC membership opens the door to a wealth of tools, training and support designed specifically for local governments. Here are just a few valuable ways we help cities succeed:

- 1. Federal Advocacy That Works.** NLC is your voice in Washington. Our federal advocacy team works year-round to ensure local priorities are represented at the national level, from securing infrastructure investments to expanding affordable housing, promoting public safety and advancing digital equity. When Congress debates legislation that impacts local governments, NLC ensures your city’s perspective is heard.
- 2. Education & Professional Development.** Through NLC University, members gain access to leadership training, skill-building workshops and certifications focused on effective governance, finance, equity and communications. Whether you are a new mayor learning the ropes or a seasoned councilmember looking to strengthen your leadership style, there is a course or resource designed for you.
- 3. Research & Resources You Can Use.** Our experts produce actionable research and policy briefs that help cities navigate pressing challenges — from housing and transportation to workforce development and climate resilience. These are not just reports — they are tools you can bring directly to your council meetings and planning sessions.
- 4. Networking & Peer Exchange.** NLC’s greatest strength is its people. Through conferences, councils and networks, you will connect with peers who share similar experiences and challenges and offer solutions. You will find mentors, collaborators and lifelong colleagues across the country who are just as committed to public service as you are.



ALM staff joined elected and community leaders in Montgomery for the NLC's Centennial Roadshow.

5. Opportunities to Lead at the National Level. Members can serve on NLC committees, policy councils, constituency groups or as part of our board of directors. These roles provide local leaders with a national platform to elevate your city’s voice and help shape the future of municipal policy.

As your regional representative, I work directly with members in the South to identify these opportunities and ensure your voice is included at every table.

Connecting Through Member Councils, Federal Advocacy Committees and Constituency Groups

One of the most impactful ways to engage with the National League of Cities is by joining one of our member councils, federal advocacy committees or constituency groups. These networks provide direct access to peer learning, leadership opportunities and national policy influence, all grounded in the shared experience of local governance.

Member Councils

NLC’s Member Councils bring together local leaders from communities that share similar characteristics, such as population size, geography or policy priorities. These councils serve as spaces for collaboration, problem-solving and elevating the voices of cities and towns facing everyday challenges.

NLC Member Councils include:

- Small Cities Council
- Large Cities Council
- University Communities Council
- Military Communities Council
- First Tier Suburbs Council
- Race, Equity And Leadership (REAL) Council
- Council on Youth, Education and Families
- Young Municipal Leaders (YML)

Each council meets regularly to share best practices, discuss emerging trends and advise NLC’s broader work.

Mayor Bobby Scott Jr., of Center Point, AL, spoke at NLC’s 2025 City Summit NBC-LEO Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.



Participating in a member council helps you connect with peers who understand the unique opportunities and challenges of leading a community like yours, while also helping shape NLC's programming.

Federal Advocacy Committees

If you want to influence national policy, NLC's Federal Advocacy Committees (FA) are where members turn local experience into national impact. These committees are the foundation of NLC's federal policy process, guiding our advocacy agenda and ensuring Congress and federal agencies hear the voice of local government. Our seven NLC Federal Advocacy Committees are:

- Community and Economic Development (CED)
- Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources (EENR)
- Finance, Administration, and Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR)
- Human Development (HD)
- Information Technology and Communications (ITC)
- Public Safety and Crime Prevention (PSCP)
- Transportation and Infrastructure Services (TIS)

Serving on an federal advocacy committee allows you to collaborate with local leaders nationwide, share expertise and help shape NLC's national positions on issues that matter most to your community, from housing and infrastructure to broadband access and public safety. These committees offer an excellent opportunity to build leadership skills, deepen policy knowledge and strengthen your municipality's influence in Washington, D.C.

Constituency Groups

NLC's Constituency Groups celebrate and elevate the diversity of local leadership. They provide spaces where members connect through shared experiences, identities and community perspectives, offering support, mentorship and a platform for advocacy.

Our six NLC Constituency Groups are:

- Women in Municipal Government (WIMG)
- National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO)



NLC events offer members an opportunity to network with community leaders from around the nation.



ALM often has one of the largest state delegations in attendance at NLC's CCC and City Summit events.

- Hispanic Elected Local Officials (HELO)
- Asian Pacific American Municipal Officials (APAMO)
- LGBTQ+ Local Officials (LGBTQ+LO)
- Local Indigenous Leaders (LIL)

Each group hosts programming, leadership development opportunities and community-building events throughout the year, including during major NLC conferences. These groups are powerful spaces for both personal and professional growth, ensuring that your community’s voice and story are represented in NLC’s work.

Why Get Involved

Whether you join a member council, federal advocacy committee or constituency group, engaging in these networks is one of the best ways to make the most of your NLC membership. You will gain access to peer mentors, amplify your city’s voice in national policy and develop leadership skills that strengthen both your community and our collective movement for stronger local government.

As your south regional representative, I encourage you to explore one or all of these opportunities. NLC thrives because of the active participation of members like you, and together, we can ensure that local leadership continues to drive national progress.

Join Us in Washington: Congressional City Conference

NLC’s annual Congressional City Conference (CCC) is taking place this March in Washington, D.C., making it an ideal time to connect and see the value of your NLC membership in action.

CCC brings together thousands of local officials and municipal staff from across the country to learn, network and advocate with members of Congress and the administration. It is an opportunity to attend workshops, meet national leaders and engage in policy discussions that shape federal action on local priorities.

It is also where NLC’s member councils, federal advocacy committees and constituency groups meet in person, hosting networking events, policy discussions and advocating on Capitol Hill. If you have been thinking about getting more involved, CCC is the perfect place to start. You can learn more and register at ccc.nlc.org.

Why This Matters for Alabama’s New Leaders

With 90% of Alabama’s municipal elections taking place this past year, hundreds of new local officials have been sworn in. You are stepping into office at a pivotal time, one of both challenges and opportunities for your cities and towns.

Whether your focus is on housing affordability, infrastructure, public safety or growing your local economy, NLC is here to help you lead effectively, connect nationally and bring resources back home.

Your municipality’s membership in NLC means you are already part of this network. Now it is time to take full advantage of it.

Start by exploring NLC University courses, joining a committee or council or by signing up for newsletters and webinars. Please reach out to me at membership@nlc.org. My job is to help you navigate all that NLC has to offer.

Together, We Lead

As we enter NLC’s second century, our commitment to local leadership has never been stronger. Cities are where change begins, and NLC exists to ensure you have the tools, connections and advocacy to make that change possible.

Congratulations to all of Alabama’s newly elected local officials. I look forward to working with you, learning from you and celebrating your success as we continue to build stronger cities together.

Scan the QR code or visit nlc.org to join NLC or learn more about opportunities to get involved. ■





CONGRESSIONAL **20** March CITY CONFERENCE **26** 16-18

EXECUTIVE EDUCATION AND PRE-CONFERENCE ACTIVITIES: MARCH 14-15 WASHINGTON, DC

Where Passion Meets Purpose

Gain insights from federal leaders, policy experts, and fellow local officials at CCC 2026.

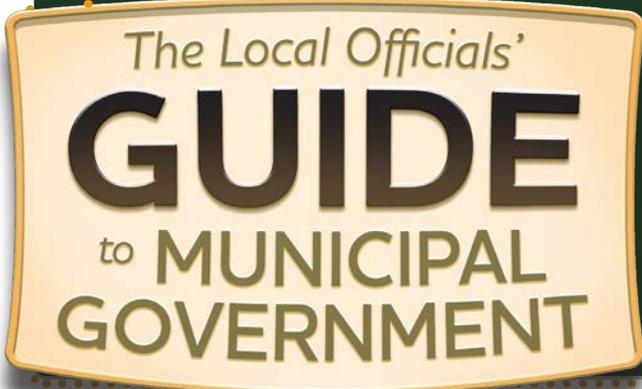


ACCESS YOUR SML MEMBER DISCOUNT &
REGISTER TODAY at ccc.nlc.org/sml

Welcome Newly Elected Municipal Officials!

Congratulations on entering municipal public service! Your question of “what can I do to help my city or town be the best it can be?” has been answered by a vote of confidence from your neighbors and a seat at the table.

The next question for you on this journey is a little harder to answer – now what? The Alabama League of Municipalities has been answering that question since 1935. The League comes in to help show you the path forward. Formed as an advocate in the Alabama Legislature, ALM has expanded to include indispensable educational opportunities for new and incumbent municipal officials to navigate their time in office. As a new official in a member municipality, you now have access to all the resources, education and training that the League has to offer. **The latest helpful publication from the League is *The Local Officials' Guide to Municipal Government*. Scan the QR code to begin your journey!**





LEARN LOCALLY:

Charles Barkley

I'VE been part of great teams throughout my career and life. Auburn University, Philadelphia 76ers, Phoenix Suns, Houston Rockets, the USA Dream Team, and the Inside the NBA on TNT broadcast team, just to name a few. Now, I've joined a new team, the Alabama Community College System (ACCS), the **home team**.

“ WHY WOULD A GUY WHO ATTENDED A FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE BACK THE TWO-YEAR COLLEGE SYSTEM? BECAUSE, I'VE PERSONALLY SEEN WHAT COMMUNITY COLLEGES CAN DO FOR A FAMILY, MY FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY, MY COMMUNITY. I LOVE ALABAMA, IT WILL ALWAYS BE HOME AND ANYTHING I CAN DO TO HELP, I WANT TO DO IT. ”

I was lucky enough to make a living dribbling a basketball, but there are so many jobs out there in healthcare, tech, manufacturing, aviation and a bunch more I haven't begun to think about. The ACCS is training people for these jobs, and in the process, changing lives every single day. It's providing opportunities for people to get the education and training they need to succeed - whether it's helping a high school student start early with dual enrollment, offering associate degree programs or two-to-four-year transfer options, preparing adults to switch careers, or giving second chances to those who've made mistakes.

I had a chance to visit Southern Union State Community College's (SUSCC) campus in Opelika. My brother attended Southern Union. While there, I met a woman who struggled academically and was told her dream school, Auburn University, was not an option. The SUSCC faculty and staff believed in her,

nurtured her, taught her, and she eventually transferred to Auburn. She is now an engineer working in Georgia. I met a single mom who returned to school to provide for her family and is now working in the aviation industry. Lastly, I met a young man named Adam who overcame addiction, enrolled in SUSCC's Adult Education program, and eventually graduated with a degree in Industrial Maintenance. He's now earning a six-figure salary.

The ACCS also believes in second chances. As the only two-year college in the country where all of the students are incarcerated, Ingram State Technical College offers people who've made mistakes a way to learn skills, find purpose, and discover that it's never too late to turn things around.

“ COMMUNITY COLLEGE IS A LAUNCH PAD TO LIFE-CHANGING OPPORTUNITY, AND I WANT TO ADD THE FUEL TO HELP THE CITIZENS OF ALABAMA TAKE OFF. THAT'S WHY I'VE PLEDGED TO DONATE \$1 MILLION OVER THE NEXT 10 YEARS TO THE ACCS. ”

When I think about Alabama's future, I see opportunity, and the ACCS is a huge part of that vision. They're not just building careers—they're building hope and possibility for every corner of Alabama. That matters to me!

Charles Barkley, a Hall of Fame basketball legend and esteemed NBA and college basketball analyst, hails from Alabama. A dedicated advocate for education and workforce development, he actively champions opportunities that empower individuals to build brighter futures.

Live Locally Alabama:

West Alabama Communities Invest in People, Pride and Opportunity

SoulGrown Staff and Lori Jhons • Communications Director • ALM



This article is printed as it appeared in the SoulGrown digital publication on Dec. 22, 2025.

From historic riverfronts to growing workforce pipelines and strategic development along major corridors, west Alabama’s cities show how local leadership and citizen involvement can shape lasting progress. Through the Alabama League of Municipalities’ Live Locally Alabama campaign, municipal leaders are highlighting the ways residents, businesses and governments work together to strengthen the places they call home.

As part of the campaign, ALM is visiting communities across the state to spotlight how local governments partner with citizens to create opportunity, connection and pride. In west Alabama, three communities—Thomasville, Selma and Guin—demonstrate how investing in education, downtown revitalization and strategic

development helps communities grow stronger together.

Learn Through Early Workforce Pathways in Thomasville

Located in Clarke County, the city of Thomasville has made workforce development a long-term priority—one that begins well before high school graduation. Nearly two decades ago, the city became one of the first communities in Alabama to fully embrace dual enrollment at the high school level, creating a model that has since been shared statewide.

Mayor Sheldon Day, an ALM board member, says the program’s success came from collaboration. “As we developed it, we found out that partnerships are critical,” Day said. “We worked closely with our local community college, the Alabama State Board of Education, our superintendent and accreditation groups to build something that could really serve our students.”

The dual enrollment program allows students to begin technical and academic college coursework while still in high school, helping them prepare for careers in manufacturing and other industries in the region. “It’s extremely important for us to develop our workforce,” Day said. “If we have more opportunities locally, students can get a jumpstart on technical training, finish their degrees faster and stay right here in Alabama.”

When the program first launched, some parents were hesitant about technical education. Over time, perceptions changed as families saw the academic and career benefits. Today, about 30% of Thomasville High School students are enrolled in the dual enrollment program, and participation continues to grow across the area.

For Day, the Live Locally Alabama campaign reflects how Thomasville approaches growth and engagement. “Living locally starts at the local level,” he said. “The state and federal levels are there to support us, but it’s really about what you want for your community—how you want it to grow and how you want to support your families, schools and businesses.”



(Ginny Gray/SoulGrown)

Community involvement is central to that vision. “The city isn’t just the buildings—it’s the people,” Day said. “Part of living locally is getting involved. We need everyone plugging in, sharing ideas and willing to play a role. That’s how we make our community great.”

Stay and Explore the Riverfront in Selma

With deep historical roots and a renewed focus on revitalization, Selma continues to invest in projects that invite both residents and visitors to experience its downtown and riverfront.

City Councilmember Jannie Thomas says recent riverfront development and community programming have helped bring new energy to the city. “I’m extremely proud of our downtown riverfront projects and the concert series,” she said. “We want people to stay and play in Selma.”

That vision is advancing through a multi-phase, \$4.5 million riverfront development project led by the city of Selma. The initiative is focused on expanding public access to the Alabama River while laying the groundwork for long-term economic growth, recreation and tourism in the historic downtown corridor.

The city recently began phase one of the Riverfront Boardwalk Project, supported in part by an \$800,000 Transportation Alternatives Program grant through the Alabama Department of Transportation. This phase includes construction of a boardwalk and a new boat ramp, improving pedestrian connectivity and allowing residents and visitors to safely engage with the river near the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

Before construction could move forward, the city spent years addressing foundational challenges, including riverbank stabilization in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Those behind-the-scenes efforts resolved erosion issues that had long delayed progress and made the current phase possible.

City officials say the boardwalk represents only the beginning. Future phases outlined in the city’s plans include expanded green space, improved lighting, gathering areas and additional recreational amenities designed to draw people downtown and strengthen connections between the riverfront, historic landmarks and local businesses.

Thomas notes that revitalization efforts are strongest when they extend beyond infrastructure. Downtown businesses help complete the riverfront experience, she says, pointing to Reflections Coffee Shoppe as a welcoming stop for visitors exploring Selma. “You always feel welcome when you come to Selma,” she said.

She adds that sustaining momentum requires continued community engagement. Through attending council meetings, participating in cleanups and staying connected through city communication channels, residents play an active role in shaping the riverfront’s future and ensuring it remains a shared civic space rooted in Selma’s pride and progress.



(Ginny Gray/SoulGrown)



(Ginny Gray/SoulGrown)

Grow Strategically Along Interstate 22 in Guin

Located along the I-22 corridor, the city of Guin has focused on strategic development that supports travelers while generating long-term benefits for residents.

Former Mayor Phil Segraves, who served as ALM’s president in 2016, points to the city’s full-service Holiday Inn as one of the projects he is most proud of. “It gave Guin a presence on I-22,” Segraves said. “We can now provide lodging and meals for people traveling through the area, and it was truly a team effort with many people involved, from the city council to federal grant partners.”

The hotel has earned national recognition, receiving the only IHG award in the nation based on guest votes. Revenue

from the property helps fund city services, and the project has become a source of pride for the community.

Another milestone for Guin is the addition of a Tesla charging station at the Holiday Inn, making it the only one located along I-22. Segraves says the project has helped set the city apart and demonstrates the value of thinking ahead. “We’re proud to have Tesla as part of our family and to offer a service that benefits both travelers and our local economy,” he said.

For Segraves, the Live Locally Alabama campaign reinforces the importance of supporting hometown investment. “When you buy local, you’re pouring back into your own community,” he said. “My vision has always been for people to be proud of their city, and projects like the hotel are part of that vision.”

Thomasville, Selma and Guin demonstrate that communities thrive when residents, elected leaders and partners work together. While local governments can build programs, projects and amenities, it is citizen involvement that gives them meaning and momentum.

Through the Live Locally Alabama campaign, these west Alabama communities show that living locally means more than where you live—it means participating, supporting local businesses and helping shape the future of your hometown.

For more information on the ALM Live Locally Alabama campaign, including municipal and citizen resources, visit almonline.org/LiveLocallyAlabama. ■



A major component of the Live Locally Alabama campaign is ensuring our members have ready-to-use marketing assets to accomplish the aforementioned goal. This includes materials such as graphics, videos, press releases, a logo style guide, a strategic plan and more. These items can be used as is or tailored to include imagery or messaging unique to your individual communities. Scan the QR code for access to these vital materials.

WORK LOCALLY

SHOP LOCALLY

PLAY LOCALLY

SERVE LOCALLY

Encourage civic engagement, locally!

Visit almonline.org/LiveLocallyAlabama or scan the QR code for more information

New Board Members Elected for League Programs

Join us in congratulating the new board members for the Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation, the Alabama Municipal Funding Corporation and the Municipal Workers Compensation Fund! We are excited to have them serve in these leadership capacities and look forward to hearing their ideas to keep these vital programs going strong. 🍌

AMIC Board of Directors



Chair

Mayor
Ronnie Marks
Athens



Vice Chair

Mayor
Leigh Dollar
Guntersville



Mayor
Charles Ward
Ozark



Councilmember
Michael Whaley
Prattville



Councilmember
Newton Cromer
Saraland



amicentral.org

AMFund Board of Directors



Chair

Mayor
Scott Reeves
Hokes Bluff



Vice Chair

Councilmember
Jennifer Williams Smith
Jasper



Mayor
Ruthie Campbell
Robertsdale



Mayor
Bobby Scott
Center Point



Mayor
Theoangelo Perkins
Harpersville



amfund.org

MWCF Board of Directors



Chair

Mayor
Jason Reeves
Troy



Vice Chair

Mayor
Sherry Sullivan
Fairhope



Mayor
Rusty Jessup
Riverside



Councilmember
Charles Black
Priceville



Councilmember
Willis Thompson
Muscle Shoals



almwcf.org

through the America 250 Alabama website, they receive a complimentary 3-by-5 Semiquincentennial flag to display at city hall, municipal buildings, parks or community gathering spaces.

This program encourages communities to take part in a shared, statewide celebration while tailoring activities to their local history, character and traditions. It is a way for municipalities to say, “We are part of this story, too.”

Additionally, America 250 Alabama will distribute up to \$725,000 in grant funding (up to 250 community grants of \$2,500 and up to 100 organization grants of \$1,000) to Alabama municipalities and counties, as well as to nonprofit organizations



that regularly host programming related to the American Revolution and the founding era. The deadline to apply is April 30. Scan the QR code to learn more.



Why Local History Matters

Walker’s quote emphasizes the connection between two iconic American bridges: one in Massachusetts where revolution began and one in Alabama where the fight for civil rights gained global attention nearly two centuries later. Together, they symbolize the continuing work of a nation striving toward “a more perfect Union.”

For Alabama communities, the Semiquincentennial provides an opportunity to highlight their own chapters in that story. Whether it is a founding event, a historic landmark, a transformative industry or a local leader who made a national impact, every city and town has threads of history that contribute to the larger tapestry of the American experience.

Encouraging residents to share family stories, reflect on local heritage and explore community archives can deepen civic pride and connect younger generations to the places they call home. As Alabama’s municipalities uplift their unique histories, they help ensure that the nation’s 250th anniversary is not just a look backward, but a bridge toward the future.

Events and Opportunities Across Alabama

Throughout 2026, communities that wish to participate can host a broad array of commemorative activities and programs. These may include:

Historical Exhibits and Storytelling Initiatives

- Municipalities can partner with local museums, historical societies, schools and libraries to highlight community origins, preserve oral histories or showcase artifacts that reflect the last 250 years.

Public Events and Festivals

- Cities and towns may include Semiquincentennial themes in existing festivals, summer celebrations, Independence Day events, Christmas parades or special community gatherings. Flying the Semiquincentennial flag or hosting a reading of the Declaration of Independence can add powerful historical context.

Educational Programs and Civic Engagement

- Schools and civic groups can host essay contests, walking tours, classroom programs and community discussions about American history and civic responsibilities. Local leaders may also conduct public sessions exploring how their community has grown and changed across generations.

Beautification, Art and Cultural Projects

- Murals, interpretive signage, sculptures or temporary art installations can celebrate local narratives. Beautification committees and arts councils may find this an ideal moment to enhance shared public spaces.

Statewide Initiatives

Alabama communities will also have opportunities to participate in statewide commemorative moments or coordinated activities to celebrate the founding era and the generations that followed.

How Municipalities Can Participate Today

- Engaging in the Semiquincentennial Cities/Towns Program is simple
 - Designate your municipality as a Semiquincentennial City or Town.
 - Register online to receive recognition and your complimentary flag.
 - Display the flag proudly to signal your community's participation.
- Plan local events — large or small — that highlight the history and spirit of your town.
- Share your celebrations with America 250 Alabama to help showcase participation across the state.



A Shared Celebration for the Next Generation

America's 250th birthday is a national milestone, but its meaning will be shaped in hometowns across Alabama. The Semiquincentennial offers every community — no matter their size, age or background - an opportunity to celebrate their history, honor the generations who came before and build civic pride for the generations who will follow.

As Tom Walker noted, the “quest for liberty” echoes through time and across places. Alabama's bridges, people, communities and stories are essential parts of that journey. By embracing the Semiquincentennial and sharing their own history, Alabama's cities and towns help ensure that the next 250 years are guided by the same spirit of resilience, innovation and hope that has carried our nation from its earliest days.

Municipal leaders across Alabama are encouraged to join the commemoration, register their community and begin planning how they will help write the next chapter of the American story in 2026.

Scan the QR code to learn more at www.america250al.org. ■



The American Village in Montevallo is an educational institution whose mission is to strengthen and renew the foundations of American liberty and constitutional self-government by engaging and inspiring citizens and leaders. The American Village is Alabama's designated Semiquincentennial celebration capitol!

Mandatory Hiring Practices for Law Enforcement Officers

Louis Zook • Safe Risk Loss Control Services, LLC Contractor • AMIC/MWCF

As municipal leaders, you realize the changing landscape in law enforcement that has occurred over the past several years, nationally, in Alabama and in your own communities. Well-publicized negative incidents have led to public distrust, veteran officers leaving the profession, with a lack of applicants to replace lost officers, increased media scrutiny, increased claims and lawsuits, and increased insurance payments.

As a result, every municipality with a police department is struggling to hire and maintain police officers to meet their staffing levels. Unfortunately, this has led to some departments not completing background investigations as thoroughly as they may have previously, or they may have lowered their standards and taken a chance on a potential officer that they would not have previously hired.

Officers are sworn to serve and protect your citizens. Every time you hire an officer, you employ someone who has the power to arrest, search property and use deadly force. Bad, toxic or frequent job-hopping law enforcement officers can cause irreversible damage to a municipality and its reputation.

To address these issues, Act 2021-268 was passed by the Alabama State Legislature and signed by the governor. This legislation includes mandatory pre-employment practices that must be completed by any law enforcement agency prior to employment. These mandatory practices are in addition to the requirements already in place by the Alabama Peace Officers' Standards and Training Commission (APOSTC).

NOTE: These mandatory requirements must be completed for any law enforcement officer's employment, regardless of prior experience, certification or any other factors. Simply stated, whether a brand-new recruit, a 25-year veteran or a chief of police, these requirements must be completed on each and every law enforcement hire.

Municipal leaders need to be aware of these mandatory requirements and ensure that their police department is in compliance. A copy of the applicable Alabama Code Section is provided below.

Code of Alabama: Section 36-21-55.3 Background Checks Required for Employment or Appointment of Law Enforcement Officers.

- (a.) Prior to the employment or appointment of a law enforcement officer, a law enforcement agency shall do all of the following:
 1. Conduct a fingerprint-based state and national criminal background check that shall be completed by the Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) for purposes of determining suitability for employment or appointment.
 2. Review the current and prior law enforcement officer employment history confirmed through access of the information in the database as required by subsection (e) of Section 36-21-55.1.
 3. Review current and previous residential addresses of the law enforcement officer.
 4. Review reportable offenses, if any, against the law enforcement officer while appointed or employed with any other law enforcement agency confirmed through access of the information in the database as required by subdivision (a)(1) of Section 36-21-55.1.
 5. Review available social media accounts of the law enforcement officer.
 6. Review professional references provided by the law enforcement officer.
 7. Review disciplinary action as defined in Section 36-21-55 taken against the law enforcement officer while in secondary and postsecondary school confirmed by telephone or electronic or other means.
 8. Review a full report of the law enforcement officer's credit history provided by the law enforcement officer.
- (b.) A law enforcement officer shall sign a written release authorizing a law enforcement agency to obtain the pre-employment check information listed in subsection (a).

- (c.) A law enforcement agency shall complete an investigation validating any additional information provided by the law enforcement officer.
- (d.) 1. Results of the criminal background check received by the hiring or appointing law enforcement agency shall be confidential and may not be deemed a public record, disclosed to any individual beyond those with authorized access, or disclosed under the Alabama Open Records Act.
- 2. The employing or appointing law enforcement agencies shall comply with rules of Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency and the Federal Bureau of Investigation regarding the use of criminal records. Any person who releases or discloses records in violation of these rules or subdivision (1), upon conviction, shall be guilty of a Class A misdemeanor.

Although complying with state law and doing the right thing are more than sufficient reasons to complete these requirements, there is one additional reason to consider. Effective October 1, 2025, the state statute for Impersonating a Peace Officer includes anyone that *“Employs, appoints, or otherwise facilitates a person serving as a peace officer when he or she knows the person is prohibited from serving as a peace officer.”* Ala. Code § 13A-10-11. Clearly the only way to know that a person is not prohibited from serving as a peace officer is to complete the requirements listed above.

In addition to the requirements mandated in the Code of Alabama §36-21-55.3, there are numerous other recommended best practices that should be considered for inclusion in the pre-employment process. Some of the more common best practices include psychological evaluations, polygraph testing or voice stress analysis, motor vehicle driving history, drug testing, physical agility/ability testing and pre-employment medical exams.

It is recommended that all law enforcement agencies develop and implement written pre-employment screening and testing measures for applicants. Prior to implementation, this process should be reviewed by your human resource department and/or your city attorney to ensure it adheres to applicable law and best practices. Fair and legally defensible selection procedures provide agencies with the opportunity to employ the best qualified candidates, while guarding against claims or lawsuits for unfair or discriminatory hiring practices.

The Alabama Municipal Insurance Corporation (AMIC)/Municipal Workers Compensation Fund (MWCF) Loss Control Division has a model hiring practices policy, which includes sample checklists for non-certified police applicants, certified police applicants and non-sworn support personnel, a background investigation waiver and other resource documents. This resource can be downloaded at www.losscontrol.org, under Reference Documents, by keyword search **hiring** or **PSOP-005**. Scan the QR code to begin your search. ■



In Memory of James “Jim” P. Nix Sr.



League past president, James “Jim” P. Nix Sr., passed away at the age of 88 on October 14, 2025. During his influential tenure as the League’s president from 1982 to 1983, Mayor Nix served the state of Alabama and the city of Fairhope with an imaginative spirit and a strong commitment to civic excellence.

Mayor Nix’s career as a public servant began in 1968 when he was elected to the Fairhope City Council. In 1972, he began a historic 28-year tenure as mayor, serving seven consecutive terms. During nearly three decades in office, he significantly contributed to the charm that defines Fairhope today. His leadership oversaw the city’s renowned downtown beautification process and navigated Fairhope through a period of significant economic success during the 1980s, transforming the community into a premier destination on the Gulf Coast.

Beyond his municipal leadership, Mayor Nix’s influence extended across the state’s educational and legislative landscapes. He served as chairman of the University of South Alabama Board of Trustees and was a dedicated member of numerous service organizations, including the Rotary Club and the Masonic Lodge. A man of faith and community, he was also a long-time member of the First Baptist Church.

There are not enough words to describe the visionary life and legacy of Mayor Nix. His impact stretches far beyond the shores of his beloved community, and we are profoundly grateful for the decades of service he dedicated to ALM. ■



THE COACH SAFELY ACT

In 2018, the Coach Safety Act, passed the legislature. It required unpaid or volunteer coaches or trainers associated with youth athletics for children under age 14 who practice or play on public property to complete five training requirements on an annual basis. The goal is to offer instruction to volunteers about ways to properly respond to and prevent serious injury in children and youth.

Coaches must receive training on all of the following areas each year:



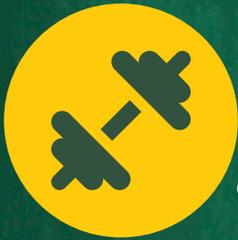
Emergency preparedness, planning and rehearsal for traumatic injuries



Heat and extreme weather-related injury familiarization



Concussions and head trauma



Physical conditioning and training equipment usage



Heart defects and abnormalities that can lead to sudden cardiac death

Youth leagues must maintain records of course completion by individual coaches/trainers. ADPH houses a database of information submitted by the sports organizations.

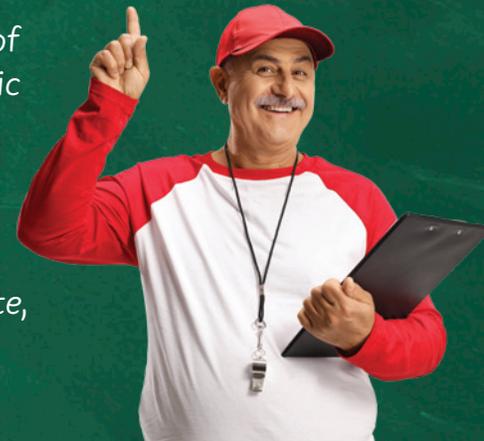
To review the resources and for more information, scan the QR code.



A link on the site includes a searchable database of the names of volunteer coaches and the trainings they have completed.

The Coach Safely Act was passed to add penalties for noncompliant youth athletic associations. The Alabama Department of Public Health was required to notify youth athletic associations of noncompliance with the training requirements for children under age 14 and if the noncompliance is not remedied after two years, a fine against the association would be levied.

After a fourth consecutive year of noncompliance the youth athletic association may not administer or conduct any youth athletic activities on property owned, leased, managed, or maintained by the state, an agent of the state, or a political subdivision of the state for a period of one year.



The Coach Safely Act defines high-risk youth athletic activities as any organized sport in which there is a significant possibility for a youth athlete to sustain a serious physical injury, including, but not limited to, the sports of football, basketball, baseball, volleyball, soccer, ice or field hockey, cheerleading, and lacrosse.

The ADPH is updating rules and statutes to implement the 2025 Coach Safely Act which took effect on October 1, 2025. **For more information, visit alabamapublichealth.gov/injuryprevention/youth-athletics.html.**

ALABAMA
PUBLIC
HEALTH

ALM Wishes Happy Sonya McCarley a Happy Retirement!

Sonya McCarley joined the League staff in 2003 and has since become a cornerstone of the AMIC/MWCF Loss Control Division. As the assistant loss control coordinator, Sonya is behind the department's day-to-day operations, ensuring that everything runs smoothly and efficiently. In addition to her administrative leadership, she is responsible for the Safety Video Library, providing essential resources to our members. For over two decades, Sonya's experience and dedication have been instrumental in the continued success and organization of the loss control team.

Sonya's connection to the division is truly a family affair, as her husband, Todd, served as a loss control representative before retiring in 2024. Outside of the office, Sonya and Todd are active members of Coosada Baptist Church. They are the proud parents of two grown children and loving grandparents to five grandchildren. When they are not spending quality time with their family and friends, you can usually find Sonya and Todd enjoying life on the lake.

Though we are sad to see her go, we wish Sonya all the best in her next endeavor. ■

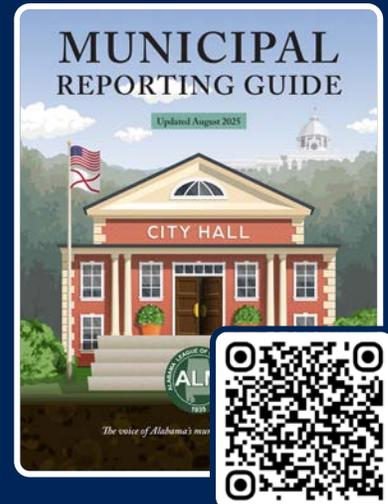
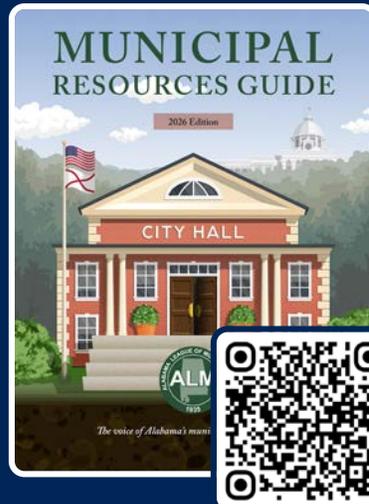




The Alabama League of Municipalities has recently updated our **Municipal Resources Guide** and **Municipal Reporting Guide**!

As part of our mission to support our members, the League created these one-stop guides to ensure our municipalities are aware of various state resources they can apply for and laws that require local governments to provide annual reports on specific municipal operations. While these guides do not include all the information about each grant program and law, they do provide an overview of the requirements, contact information and deadlines. Please reach out to any member of our team at (334) 262-2566, if you need any assistance.

Both guides are living documents that will be updated each year. Members, legislators and other elected officials are encouraged to share these great resources. They can be accessed online at almonline.org or by scanning the QR codes.



Keep Your City Green and Growing Strong

Healthy trees define our communities.

Ickes Tree Service provides Tree Health Care Programs for municipalities — including soil analysis, pest and disease management, fertilization, ongoing monitoring by a Certified Arborists and Qualified Tree Risk Assessments.

We don't treat symptoms — we build lasting tree vitality.

Let's grow a healthier canopy together.



251.945.5144
ickestreeservice.com

MANAGED SERVICES



Alabama League of Municipalities' Cybersecurity & Technology Services

Need an IT support provider that understands municipalities? We help municipalities get out of the IT trenches and back to working on what matters.

VC3, the Alabama League of Municipalities' endorsed IT service provider, has been making IT personal, making IT easy, and getting IT right for more than 30 years. Serving over 1,100 municipalities of all sizes, VC3's Alabama-based engineers are supported by a deep bench of national talent.

Powered By



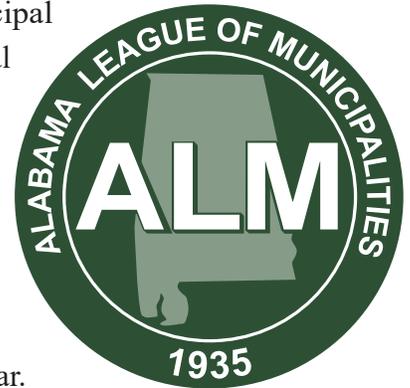
READY TO TACKLE YOUR CYBERSECURITY & TECHNOLOGY ISSUES?

Contact us today at
vc3.com/get-started

VC3.COM | 800-787-1160

JOIN THE TEAM, TODAY! BECOME A SPONSOR!

At ALM, we are not only dedicated to advocating for strong municipal policies, but we are committed to educating both new and veteran municipal officials about best practices in doing their jobs and giving them the resources to develop innovative ideas. We want every one of Alabama's municipal leaders to have a firm foundation, so they can better serve their communities and that is where you come in. As a strategic partner, sponsor or exhibitor, you will play a special role in supporting our mission to strengthen local leadership. Your partnership will assist us with hosting strategically crafted events and programs throughout the year. We hope that you will join us in our journey to make Alabama's communities the best places to live, work and play.



Scan the QR code to view a video message from our Deputy Director Kayla Bass about the benefits of the Sponsorship Program!



Alabama's only state tax refund municipal debt recovery program

(FREE to eligible participating members!)

www.alintercept.org

Why use Municipal Intercept Services (MIS) when you already have a debt collection service?

MIS is **NOT** a debt collection agency or service. MIS does not do what debt collection services do and debt collection services cannot offer what MIS does. MIS is a unique way to attempt to recover money owed to your municipality by "intercepting" an individual's Alabama State tax refund. Debt collection agencies CANNOT offer you this service. MIS is a legislatively sanctioned conduit with the Alabama Department of Revenue (ADOR) that enables ADOR to recover delinquent debts owed by individuals to your municipality by collecting this debt from the individual's Alabama state tax refund. This system was made possible by an Alabama legislative change enacted in 2014 through which ADOR agreed to process these debts through only two clearinghouse organizations: the Alabama League of Municipalities (ALM) for municipal entities and the Association of County Commissions of Alabama (ACCA) for county entities. In 2015, ALM formed MIS to act as the clearinghouse on behalf of its municipal entities. **NOTE:** If the debtor is not eligible for an Alabama State tax refund, no money can be collected.

Who is eligible to use the MIS system?

Only municipal entities within Alabama are eligible to use the MIS system. This includes cities, towns, certain utility boards, housing authorities and hospitals. **For more information, visit: www.alintercept.org.**



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

DEC. 31
2024

All funds must be **obligated** by **December 31, 2024**.

DEC. 31
2026

All funds must be **expended** by **December 31, 2026**.

SEPT. 30
2026

However, if funds are used for **surface transportation projects or projects eligible under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974**, the funds must be **expended** earlier, by **September 30, 2026**.

After the deadline to expend the funds, municipalities are required to return any remaining funds to the U.S. Department of the Treasury.



Scan the QR code to access more information about ARPA on the League's website. almonline.org/AmericanRescuePlan



Scan the QR code to learn more about the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) program. home.treasury.gov/policy-issues/coronavirus/assistance-for-state-local-and-tribal-governments/state-and-local-fiscal-recovery-funds

The Municipal Workers Compensation Fund has been serving Alabama's municipalities since 1976 and is the second oldest league insurance pool in the nation!



- Directed by Veteran Municipal Officials from Alabama
- Over 600 Participating Municipal Entities
- Free Safety Video Library & Online Training
- Since 1976, MWCF has returned over \$89.5 million to its members as Renewal Dividends.
- Free Medical Cost Containment Program
- New Member Discounts
- Loss Control Services Including:
 - Skid Car Training Courses
 - Fire Arms Training System
- Claims Analysis
- Safety Discounts Available

Contact Us!
Quick Quotes
available online.
www.almwcf.org

Richard Buttenshaw
President, MWCF
P.O. Box 1270
Montgomery, AL 36102
334-262-2566

Terry Young
Marketing Manager, MWCF
P.O. Box 43769
Birmingham, AL 35243
1-888-736-0210
email: tyoung@mrm-llc.com



Low-interest loans ideal for:

Equipment Financing · Capital Improvement Projects · Refinancing

Simple two-page application process:

Straight-forward · Quick Turnaround · No Obligation



Complete
application

Provide 3 most
recent audits.

Sign and Submit.

It's that simple.

Find out if AMFund is right for you. Visit our website for more information, www.amfund.com